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ABSTRACT

These city surveys had a twofold purpose: the assessment of public attitudes about crime and related matters and the development of information on the extent and nature of residents' experience's with selected forms of criminal victimization. Attitudinal information was obtained from interviews with the occupants of 4,866 housing units. Because relatively few Houston residents regarded crime as the single most important community problem, the threat of criminal victimization did not strongly influence personal lifestyles, mobility, and decisions relating to the acquisition of a home. Some 85% of the population rated the performance of the local police as no lower than average. Issues of environmental quality, economic and housing conditions, and personal convenience far outweighed concerns about crime. Most residents believed that crime had increased, particularly outside the neighborhood and at the national level. Many people, especially women and persons age 35-64, believed that their chances of being criminally victimized had risen. Women, members of the black community, and persons who had been victimized tended to be more likely than others to think that crime was up; that crime was worse than reported; that parts of the metropolitan area were unsafe; and/or than police performance was below average. (Author)

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Houston: Public attitudes about crime

A National Crime Survey Report

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Houston: Public attitudes about crime

A National Crime Survey Report

**No. SD-NCS-C-23
June 1978**

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**Law Enforcement
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**National Criminal Justice Information
and Statistics Service**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Law Enforcement Assistance Administration**

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Preface

Since early in the 1970's, victimization surveys have been carried out under the National Crime Survey (NCS) program to provide insight into the impact of crime on American society. As one of the most ambitious efforts yet undertaken for filling some of the gaps in crime data, the surveys, carried out for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, are supplying the criminal justice community with new information on crime and its victims, complementing data resources already on hand for purposes of planning, evaluation, and analysis. Based on representative sampling of households and commercial establishments, the program has had two major elements, a continuous national survey and separate surveys in 26 central cities across the Nation.

Based on a scientifically designed sample of housing units within each jurisdiction, the city surveys had a twofold purpose: the assessment of public attitudes about crime and related matters and the development of information on the extent and nature of residents' experiences with selected forms of criminal victimization. The attitude questions were asked of the occupants of a random half of the housing units selected for the victimization survey. In order to avoid biasing respondents' answers to the attitude questions, this part of the survey was administered before the victimization questions. Whereas the attitude questions were asked of persons age 16 and over, the victimization survey applied to individuals age 12 and over. Because the attitude questions were designed to elicit personal opinions and perceptions as of the date of the interview, it was not necessary to associate a particular time frame with this portion of the survey, even though some queries made reference to a period of time preceding the survey. On the other hand, the victimization questions referred to a fixed time frame—the 12 months preceding the month of interview—and respondents were asked to recall details concerning their experiences as victims of one or more of the following crimes, whether completed or attempted: rape, personal robbery, assault, personal larceny, burglary, household larceny, and motor vehicle theft. In addition, information about burglary and robbery of businesses and certain other organizations was gathered by means of a victimization survey of commercial establishments, conducted separately from the household survey. A pre-

vious publication, *Criminal Victimization Surveys in Houston* (1977), provided comprehensive coverage of results from both the household and commercial victimization surveys.

Attitudinal information presented in this report was obtained from interviews with the occupants of 4,866 housing units (9,357 residents age 16 and over), or 96.2 percent of the units eligible for interview. Results of these interviews were inflated by means of a multistage weighting procedure to produce estimates applicable to all residents age 16 and over and to demographic and social subgroups of that population. Because they derived from a survey rather than a complete census, these estimates are subject to sampling error. They also are subject to response and processing errors. The effects of sampling error or variability can be accurately determined in a carefully designed survey. In this report, analytical statements involving comparisons have met the test that the differences cited are equal to or greater than approximately two standard errors; in other words, the chances are at least 95 out of 100 that the differences did not result solely from sampling variability. Estimates based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases were considered unreliable and were not used in the analysis of survey results.

The 37 data tables in Appendix I of this report are organized in a sequence that generally corresponds to the analytical discussion. Two technical appendixes and a glossary follow the data tables: Appendix II consists of a facsimile of the survey questionnaire (Form NCS 6), and Appendix III supplies information on sample design and size, the estimation procedure, reliability of estimates, and significance testing; it also contains standard error tables.

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Crime and attitudes

During the 1960's, the President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice observed that "What America does about crime depends ultimately upon how Americans see crime. . . . The lines along which the Nation takes specific action against crime will be those that the public believes to be the necessary ones." Recognition of the importance of societal perceptions about crime prompted the Commission to authorize several public opinion surveys on the matter.¹ In addition to measuring the degree of concern over crime, those and subsequent surveys provided information on a variety of related subjects, such as the manner in which fear of crime affects people's lives, circumstances engendering fear for personal safety, members of the population relatively more intimidated by or fearful of crime, and the effectiveness of criminal justice systems. Based on a sufficiently large sample, moreover, attitude surveys can provide a means for examining the influence of victimization experiences upon personal outlooks. Conducted periodically in the same area, attitude surveys distinguish fluctuations in the degree of public concern; conducted under the same procedures in different areas, they provide a basis for comparing attitudes in two or more localities. With the advent of the National Crime Survey (NCS) program, it became possible to conduct large-scale attitudinal surveys addressing these and other issues, thereby enabling individuals to participate in appraising the status of public safety in their communities.

Based on data from a 1974 attitudinal survey, this report analyzes the responses of Houston residents to questions covering four topical areas: crime trends, fear of crime, residential problems and lifestyles, and local police performance. Certain questions, relating to household activities, were asked of only one person per household (the "household respondent"), whereas others were administered to all persons age 16 and over ("individual respondents"), including the household respondent. Results were obtained for the total measured population and for several demographic and social subgroups.

Conceptually, the survey incorporated questions

pertaining to behavior as well as opinion. Concerning behavior, for example, each respondent for a household was asked where its members shopped for food and other merchandise, where they lived before moving to the present neighborhood, and how long they had lived at that address. Additional questions asked of the household respondent were designed to elicit opinions about the neighborhood in general, about the rationale for selecting that particular community and leaving the former residence, and about factors that influenced shopping practices. None of the questions asked of the household respondent raised the subject of crime. Respondents were free to answer at will. In contrast, most of the individual attitude questions, asked of all household members age 16 and over, dealt specifically with matters relating to crime. These persons were asked for viewpoints on subjects such as crime trends in the local community and in the Nation, chances of being personally attacked or robbed, neighborhood safety during the day or at night, the impact of fear of crime on behavior, and the effectiveness of the local police. For many of these questions, response categories were predetermined and interviewers were instructed to probe for answers matching those on the questionnaire.

Although the attitude survey has provided a wealth of data, the results are opinions. For example, certain residents may have perceived crime as a growing threat or neighborhood safety as deteriorating, when, in fact, crime had declined and neighborhoods had become safer. Furthermore, individuals from the same neighborhood or with similar personal characteristics and/or experiences may have had conflicting opinions about any given issue. Nevertheless, people's opinions, beliefs, and perceptions about crime are important because they may influence behavior, bring about changes in certain routine activities, affect household security measures, or result in pressures on local authorities to improve police services.

The relationship between victimization experiences and attitudes is a recurring theme in the analytical section of this report. Information concerning such experiences was gathered with separate questionnaires, Forms NCS 3 and 4, used in administering the victimization component of the survey. Victimization survey results appeared in *Criminal Victimization Surveys in Houston* (1977), which also contains a detailed description of the survey-measured crimes, a discussion of the limitations of the central city surveys, and facsimiles of Forms NCS 3 and 4. For the purpose of this report,

¹President's Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Justice. *The Challenge of Crime in a Free Society*. Washington, D.C. U.S. Government Printing Office, February 1967, pp. 49-53.

Individuals who were victims of the following crimes, whether completed or attempted, during the 12 months prior to the month of the interview were considered "victimized": rape, personal robbery, assault, and personal larceny. Similarly, members of households that experienced one or more of three types of offenses—burglary, household larceny, and motor vehicle theft—were categorized as victims. These crimes are defined in the glossary. Persons who experienced crimes other than those measured by the program, or who were victimized by any of the relevant offenses outside of the 12-month reference period, were classified as "not victimized." Limitations inherent in the victimization survey—that may have affected the accuracy of distinguishing victims from nonvictims—resulted from the problem of victim recall (the differing ability of respondents to remember crimes) and from the phenomenon of telescoping (the tendency of some respondents to recount incidents occurring outside, usually before, the appropriate time frame). Moreover, some crimes were sustained by victims outside of their city of residence; these may have had little or no effect in the formation of attitudes about local matters.

Despite the difficulties in distinguishing precisely between victims and nonvictims, it was deemed important to explore the possibility that being a victim of crime, irrespective of the level of seriousness or the frequency of occurrence, has an impact on behavior and attitudes. Adopting a simple dichotomous victimization experience variable—victimized and not victimized—for purposes of tabulation and analysis also stemmed from the desirability of attaining the highest possible degree of statistical reliability, even at the cost of using these broad categories. Ideally, the victim category should have distinguished the type or seriousness of crimes, the recency of the events, and/or the number of offenses sustained.² Such a procedure seemingly would have yielded more refined measures of the effects of crime upon attitudes. By reducing the number of sample cases on which estimates were based, however, such a subcategory of victims would have weakened the statistical validity of comparisons between the victims and nonvictims.

²Survey results presented in this report contain attitudinal data furnished by the victims of "series victimizations" (see glossary).

Summary

Because relatively few Houston residents regarded crime as the single most important community problem, the threat of criminal victimization did not strongly influence personal lifestyles, mobility, and decisions relating to the acquisition of a home. Some 85 percent of the population rated the performance of the local police as no lower than average, and about 19 in 20 persons thought that their own neighborhoods were no worse than others, or perhaps were better, insofar as crime was involved. Issues of environmental quality, economic and housing conditions, and personal convenience far outweighed concerns about crime.

When the interview focused on matters related to crime, however, most Houston residents shared the opinion that crime had increased, particularly outside the neighborhood and at the national level. Many people, especially women and persons age 35-64, believed that their chances of being criminally victimized had risen, and about a third of the population thought that the crime problem was more serious than portrayed in the news media.

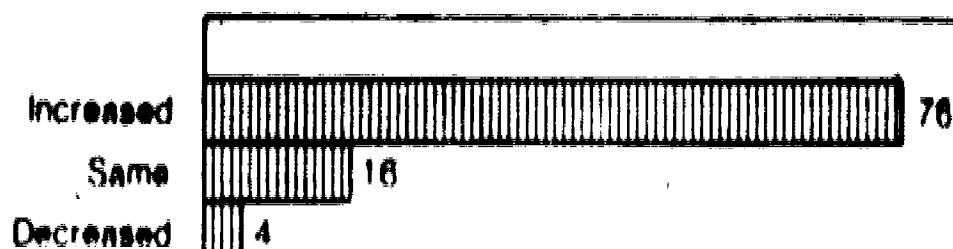
Opinions relating to crime were not uniform across all sectors of the city's population, however. For example, women were more likely than men to believe that crime in the Nation had risen, that their neighborhoods were unsafe, that their chances of becoming a victim had gone up, and that police performance had been poor. Consistent with these beliefs, women were more likely than men to indicate that they had changed their activities because of crime. Perhaps reflecting a comparatively higher level of insecurity because of crime—as evidenced by perceptions that most criminal offenders lived in their neighborhoods and that the vicinity was unsafe at night—members of the black community were considerably more likely than their white counterparts to have modified their activities and to have rated police performance as less than good, particularly in areas relating to the application of resources and public relations.

Notwithstanding the relatively low degree of importance that Houston residents associated with the problem of local crime, persons who had been victimized during 1973 by one or more of the offenses measured by the National Crime Survey program tended to be more likely than those not victimized to think that crime was up, both nationally and in their neighborhood; that crime was worse than reported in the media; that parts of the Houston metropolitan

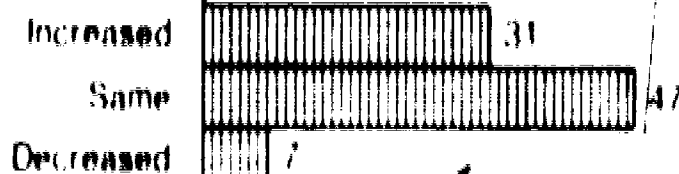
area were unsafe, and that police performance was below average. Commensurate with these beliefs, 1 in 5 persons who felt unsafe about their neighborhood and who had been victims of crime in the preceding year indicated that they seriously considered leaving the vicinity. Although survey results revealed quite consistently that victimized persons generally were more pessimistic than those not victimized, and that they were more inclined to report that they behaved more guardedly because of crime, the differences between responses by the two groups were not large in many instances, and in some they were statistically insignificant. For example, whereas 62 percent of victimized persons believed that their chances of being robbed or attacked had risen and 45 percent indicated that they had limited or changed their activities because of crime, the corresponding percentages for those not victimized were 56 and 38. Although modest, the differences between answers for the two groups were statistically significant in each of these instances.

Chart A. Summary findings about crime trends

Direction of U.S. crime
(Table 1)



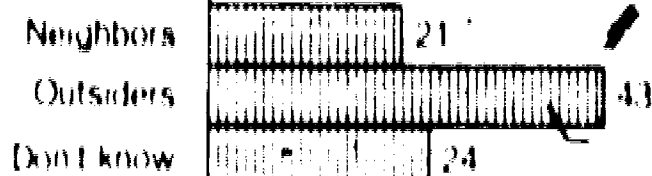
Direction of neighborhood crime
(Table 2)



Comparative neighborhood safety
(Table 3)



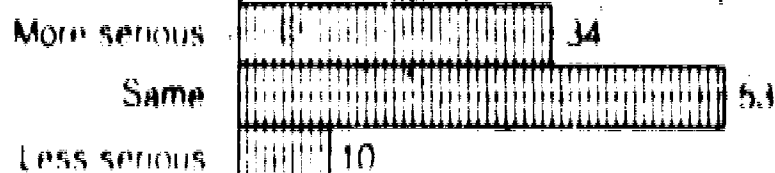
General identity of offenders
(Table 4)



Chances of being victimized
(Table 5)



Crime as portrayed
by news media
(Table 6)



0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90
Percent

This section of the report deals with the perceptions of Houston residents with respect to community crime trends, personal safety, crime in the Nation, and the accuracy with which newspapers and television were thought to be reporting the crime problem. The findings were drawn from Data Tables 1 through 6, found in Appendix I. The relevant questions, appearing in the facsimile of the survey instrument (Appendix II), are 9a, 9c, 10a, 12, 15a, and 15b; each question was asked of persons age 16 and over.

U.S. crime trends

Approximately three-fourths of Houston residents age 16 and over felt that crime in the United States had increased in the last year or two, 16 percent believed that it had remained about the same, and only 4 percent stated that it had decreased; some 5 percent either did not know if a change had occurred or did not respond. These proportions remained relatively stable across age, sex, race, and victimization experience categories. Thus, although females were more likely than males to believe that crime had increased, the difference was not substantial (78 vs. 73 percent). The consensus that crime had risen nationally was relatively uniform for all age groups. As for the victimization experience of respondents, some 74 percent of those who did not come into contact with crime during 1973 thought that crime had increased, compared with 79 percent among those who were victimized by one or more of the offenses measured under the National Crime Survey program.

Neighborhood crime trends

Residents of Houston also were asked if they believed that crime had changed in their own neighborhood during the last year or two. The resulting opinions contrasted sharply with those expressed about national crime trends. Those who felt that crime had remained about the same made up the largest group (47 percent). Approximately 31 percent, or less than half the proportion of residents who said that crime had increased nationally, believed that crime had increased in their neighborhood, whereas about 7 percent reported that it had

ion about the matter, did not record an answer, or had not lived in the community long enough to form an opinion. Although there were few substantial differences of belief according to sex or race, victimization experience was positively related to the feeling that neighborhood crime had increased. Approximately 37 percent of those victimized said that crime had risen, compared with 27 percent among the nonvictim population.

Regarding the danger of neighborhood crime relative to other parts of the Houston metropolitan area, only about 1 in 20 city residents considered their neighborhoods more perilous than others. Irrespective of sex, age, race, or victimization experience, comparatively few persons thought their vicinities were dangerous. The vast majority felt that their neighborhoods were either average (42 percent) or less dangerous (52) than others. Nevertheless, whites were more likely than blacks to have felt that their neighborhood was less dangerous (57 vs. 40 percent), whereas blacks were more likely than whites to have thought that their neighborhood was about average (53 vs. 38 percent).

Who are the offenders?

With respect to neighborhood crime, respondents were asked if most of the offenses were committed by persons living in the vicinity or by outsiders. By a margin of about 2 to 1, outsiders were considered responsible. However, persons who did not know the identity of the offenders, who indicated that there were no crimes taking place in the neighborhood, or who simply failed to respond, totaled approximately 30 percent of the population. Some 6 percent attributed the commission of crimes equally to neighboring residents and outsiders. In relative terms, slightly more blacks (25 percent) than whites (20) felt that people living in the neighborhood were responsible for crime, but the victimization experience variable did not yield as much in the way of contrasts in response to the question as did the age variable. As age increased, respondents were less likely to attribute the perpetration of crime to individuals within the neighborhood, somewhat more inclined to say that crimes were not happening, or more apt to express ignorance of the matter altogether. This finding may relate to the greater likelihood of younger persons being the victims of personal crimes of violence, a high proportion of

spondent's age was not related in any meaningful way to the belief that crimes were carried out by outsiders.

Chances of personal victimization

Some 58 percent of Houston residents believed that their chances of being victimized had risen in recent years. Approximately one-third of the population indicated that the probability of being victimized had not changed, whereas some 6 percent responded that it had gone down. Personal assessment of changes in the likelihood of being robbed or attacked varied among several of the population subgroups studied. For example, men were somewhat more likely than women to believe that their chances of becoming a victim had decreased (8 vs. 5 percent) or had remained the same (37 vs. 30 percent), whereas women were more apt than men to indicate their chances had risen (63 vs. 52 percent). Whites were only slightly more inclined than blacks to believe that their chances of being robbed or otherwise attacked had gone up (59 vs. 55 percent); conversely, blacks were more disposed than whites to think their chances had gone down (9 vs. 5 percent).

With respect to changes in the chance of becoming a victim of robbery or other attack, age was a key variable in assessing the perceived danger of such personal victimization. Except for persons age 65 and over, older residents tended to be more likely than younger ones to believe that their chances of being robbed or attacked had gone up in the past few years. Whereas about half of the population age 16-19 expressed such a belief, the proportion among those 35-64 years of age was 62 percent.

Perceptions of a higher degree of risk from victimization among females, whites, or older persons did not appear to relate strongly to recent victimization experience. In 1973, the victimization rate for personal crimes of violence (the aggregate of rape, personal robbery, and assault) was about twice as high for males than for females; several points higher for blacks than for whites; and some 10 times

¹Among single-offender victimizations, some three-fifths of personal robberies, as well as of assaults, against persons age 12-19 were perceived to have been committed by offenders age 12-20. See United States, National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service, *Criminal Victimization Surveys in Houston*, Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1977, Data Table 14.

more likely than nonvictims to think that their chances of being harmed had risen.

Crime and the media

Immediately after rating their chances of being robbed or attacked, residents were asked to compare their impressions about the seriousness of crime with the portrayal of the problem by newspapers and television. Some 53 percent of the population indicated that crime was about as serious as depicted by those media, and 34 percent felt that it was even more serious than reported. One-tenth of the residents concluded that crime was less serious than portrayed, and 4 percent expressed no opinion or gave no answer. In general, differences that emerged among population groups regarding the manner in which crime was reported did not seem to be meaningful. With regard to victimization experience, there was no significant difference between victims and nonvictims in rating the crime problem as less serious, and nonvictims were only slightly more likely than victims to have regarded crime as about as serious as conveyed by the media (54 vs. 50 percent). Predictably, victimized persons were more likely than nonvictims to have said crime was more serious (38 vs. 31 percent). The pattern of response to this question closely resembled that concerning changes in the degree of risk of being victimized.

²United States, National Criminal Justice Information and Statistics Service, *Criminal Victimization Surveys in 13 American Cities*, Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, June 1975, p. 68.

Among other things, results covered thus far have shown that many residents of Houston believed crime had increased over the years leading up to the survey and, in addition, felt their own chances of being attacked or robbed had risen. Whether or not they feared for their personal safety is a matter treated in this section of the report. Also examined is the impact of the fear of crime on activity patterns and on considerations regarding changes of residence. Survey questions 11a, 11b, 11c, 13a, 13b, 16a, 16b, and 16c—all asked of persons age 16 and over—and Data Tables 7 through 18 are referenced here.

Crime as a deterrent to mobility

In order to assess the impact of crime on daily life, residents were asked if there were parts of the Houston metropolitan area that they wished or needed to enter during the day but avoided doing so because of the fear of crime. Some 87 percent of the relevant population expressed no reservation about traveling to such areas because of the threat of crime, and about 11 percent were fearful. Predictably, those who reported they had been criminally victimized during 1973 were more likely than non-victims to express reluctance to move about (15 vs. 9 percent). Nevertheless, a vast majority (83 percent) of those victimized were not afraid to circulate in the metropolitan area during the day. Although statistically significant differences emerged between the responses of males and females, the variations were not large, and the pattern of answers according to race and age group was relatively stable. Surprisingly, persons age 65 and over were slightly more likely than younger ones (as a group) to be unafraid of traveling about during the day.⁵

Asked essentially the same question concerning their fear of moving about the metropolitan area at night, approximately twice as many Houston residents indicated that they were more intimidated by crime at night than during the day (23 vs. 11 percent), but a distinct majority of persons (71 percent)

⁵It should be emphasized that the source questions for data covered in this section (questions 13a and 13b) referred to places in the metropolitan area where the respondent *needed* or *desired* to enter. Thus, it is reasonable to assume that high-risk places, those most highly feared, were excluded from consideration by many respondents. Had the questions applied unconditionally to all sectors of the area, the pattern of responses no doubt would have been different.

were no consequential differences between the answers of whites and blacks or between those of males and females. However, victims were considerably more likely than nonvictims to have expressed fear (29 vs. 19 percent). As with the question about daytime mobility, an interesting pattern was evident with respect to age of the respondent. As age increased, there was a tendency for persons to be less fearful of circulating in the area at night, even though not all apparent differences between specific age groups were significant. Some seven-tenths of all residents age 16-19 were not afraid to do so, as contrasted to eight-tenths of those in the 65 and over age group. With regard to the relatively low manifestations of fear on the part of elderly persons to move about either in day or night, the response pattern may have been attributable to a lack of interest in or need for visiting or conducting business at places away from home.

Neighborhood safety

Following the series of questions about crime trends in the neighborhood and the Nation, Houston residents were asked about their feelings concerning neighborhood safety when out alone during the day or at night. About daytime, an overwhelming majority of persons (93 percent) felt, or would feel, very safe or reasonably safe, with the remainder expressing some degree of fear for personal safety. Males were slightly more likely than females to feel secure (96 vs. 90 percent), and whites were somewhat more apt than blacks to feel that way (94 vs. 90 percent). Relative to their number, the elderly (age 65 and over) regarded themselves as less safe than younger persons. Once again, however, the difference was not great: whereas 89 percent of the elderly felt secure, 94 percent of persons age 16-64 felt that way. Victimization experience had no effect whatsoever on the pattern of response.

As for the question of neighborhood safety when a person was out alone at night, feelings differed considerably from those about daytime safety. Far more people (39 vs. 6 percent) expressed that they did (or might) feel unsafe or very unsafe at night than felt that way about being alone during the day; whereas 61 percent felt reasonably or very safe at night, 93 percent felt similarly in a daytime situation. Nevertheless, most persons considered themselves reasonably or very safe when out alone in their neighborhoods at night.

would feel somewhat or very unsafe when out alone at night, females outnumbered males by a wide margin (56 vs. 20 percent), a pattern that tended to hold regardless of age. In fact, whereas a majority of males (80 percent) considered themselves safe, the opposite was true for females, 56 percent of whom believed that they were at risk when out alone at night. Blacks were more highly inclined than whites to feel unsafe (48 vs. 36 percent); again, the pattern generally applied irrespective of age.

A distinct relationship emerged between age and opinions about nighttime safety when out alone in the neighborhood, with older people generally feeling less secure than younger ones. Among persons age 16-49, an average of 64 percent felt safe in such circumstances, compared to 59 percent for individuals age 50-64 and 44 percent among those 65 and over.⁶ As with the findings for daytime safety, victimization experience had little apparent influence in molding attitudes; 62 percent of nonvictims felt safe, compared to 59 percent among victims.

Crime as a cause for moving away

Houston residents who stated that they felt somewhat or very unsafe when out alone in their neighborhoods during the day or at night were asked if their vicinities were dangerous enough to cause them to think seriously about moving elsewhere. Despite the substantial proportion of residents who voiced concern about safety, particularly at night, 83 percent of the members of this subgroup did not believe that their neighborhoods were sufficiently perilous to think of moving. On the other hand, 15 percent had contemplated moving; responses were unavailable for the remaining 2 percent. As a proportion of the population age 16 and over, the group that had thought about moving away because of crime made up only 6 percent of the total. Despite their relatively lower apprehensiveness about neighborhood safety, males were more likely than females (18 vs. 13 percent) to have considered moving.⁷ Younger persons (under age 35) were somewhat more apt than older ones to think about doing so. The difference between the proportions of blacks (19 percent) and whites (13) who seriously regarded moving also was statistically significant, although

⁶Actually, the relationship was slightly curvilinear, starting at 62 percent for persons age 16-19, rising to 68 percent for those age 25-34, and decreasing steadily thereafter.

Crime as a cause for activity modification

The final series of questions in the attitude survey elicited information as to whether respondents had limited or changed their activities in recent years because of the fear of crime, as well as whether they thought that others had done so. The response pattern generally paralleled that concerning the issue of crime trends, with persons believing that the impact of crime was greater upon persons other than their neighbors and themselves. About seven-tenths of Houston residents believed that people in general had modified their activities because they were afraid of crime. When asked about persons in their neighborhood, however, only 46 percent responded affirmatively. An even smaller percentage of individuals said that they personally had altered their activities because of crime; approximately 41 percent indicated they had, and 59 percent said they had not.

As with previous responses, certain marked differences emerged depending on the individual's sex, race, age, or recent victimization experience. For example, 49 percent of all females said they had changed their activities for fear of crime, compared with 32 percent of all males. A comparable difference was evident in the responses of blacks and whites: 53 percent of blacks said they had modified their personal activities, contrasted to 37 percent of whites. The proportion of persons indicating a limitation or change in activities tended to increase with age, from 34 percent among the 16-19 age group to 48 percent among those 65 and over, although not all apparent differences between percents for intermediate age groups were statistically significant. Persons who had been victims were more likely than those not victimized to have said they altered their activities; the respective proportions were 45 and 38 percent.

⁷Based on responses shown in Data Table 15, this observation is somewhat misleading because the source question was asked only of persons who said they felt unsafe during daytime and/or nighttime. Totalling 39 percent of the relevant population, individuals who were asked the question included 20 percent of all males, contrasted with 56 percent of all females. Thus, 6 percent of the total population age 16 and over—including 4 percent of males and 7 percent of females—said they had seriously considered moving.

The initial attitude survey questions were designed to gather information about certain specific behavioral practices of Houston householders and to explore perceptions about a wide range of community problems, one of which was crime. As indicated in the section entitled "Crime and Attitudes," certain questions were asked of only one member of each household, known as the household respondent. Information gathered from such persons is treated in this section of the report and found in Data Tables 19 through 26; the pertinent data were based on survey questions 2a through 7b. In addition, the responses to questions 8a through 8f, relating to certain aspects of personal lifestyle, also are examined in this section; the relevant questions were asked of all household members age 16 and over, including the household respondent, and the results are displayed in Data Tables 27 through 30. As can be seen from the questionnaire, and unlike the procedure used in developing the information discussed in the two preceding sections of this report, the questions that served as a basis for the topics covered here did not reveal to respondents that the development of data on crime was the main purpose of the survey.

Neighborhood problems and selecting a home

The lead question in the survey was designed to distinguish between short-term (i.e., 5 years or less) and long-term residents. Some three-fifths of Houston residents had lived at the same address for a period of 5 years or less. Subsequently, a determination was made of the reason (or reasons) these persons selected a home in a particular neighborhood; respondents who volunteered more than a single answer were asked to identify the single most important reason. Sixty-two percent regarded location and characteristics of the area—schools, type of neighbors, environment, streets, parks, etc.—as the overriding considerations. A total of roughly one-fourth indicated that the price had been right, that the dwelling's characteristics appealed to them, or that the neighborhood was the only place where they found housing. In contrast, only about 1 percent cited safety from crime as the main reason they moved to the neighborhood. Victimization experience and income level did not significantly influence the pattern of responses. Blacks, however,

tent that they were less likely to have picked the neighborhood on the basis of its characteristics, location, and schools (54 vs. 65 percent) and more apt to have said that they had no choice (10 vs. 4 percent).

When the same group of household respondents (i.e., those at the same address for 5 years or less) was asked about the reasons that prompted them to move from their former residence, approximately 68 percent mentioned the undesirability of the previous dwelling, or the need for a more convenient location, or the desire for better or more affordable housing. Once again, only a nominal proportion—some 2 percent—cited crime in the old area as the prevailing reason for moving away.

With respect to the neighborhood in which they lived at the time of the survey (irrespective of their length of residence at the designated address) household respondents were asked if there was anything they disliked about that vicinity. Sixty-five percent expressed no dislike, and 34 percent cited one or more causes for dissatisfaction, with few differences in response emerging according to income level. Blacks, however, were somewhat more apt than whites to find certain neighborhood characteristics undesirable (39 vs. 37 percent). Those who had been victims of crime expressed general dissatisfaction with the neighborhood relatively more often than nonvictims (44 vs. 29 percent). When asked to identify the most serious neighborhood problem, those who manifested dislikes reported environmental deterioration—trash, noise, overcrowding, etc.—as the most bothersome (43 percent); problems with neighbors and the influx of bad elements were cited by about 23 percent; and some 12 percent said that transportation and parking were the main difficulties. Roughly 1 in every 10 of these household respondents—or about 3 percent of all such persons in the city of Houston—indicated that crime was their prime concern. Among those who selected crime, there were no meaningful differences according to race or income. Victims, however, were more likely than nonvictims to be troubled by crime problems (13 vs. 7 percent).

Food and merchandise shopping practices

A vast majority of household respondents (85 percent) said they did their major food shopping in neighborhood stores, with the bulk of the other re-

nual income) or blacks were less apt than more affluent ones or whites, respectively, to shop for food in the neighborhood. Those who shopped elsewhere were queried about the reason for doing so. Sixty-one percent cited the unavailability or inadequacy of neighborhood stores, and 27 percent maintained that high prices in local shops prompted them to buy elsewhere. A negligible number of respondents specifically mentioned the effects of crime or the fear of crime on their shopping practices.

In addition to questions about food shopping, household respondents were asked whether or not they usually purchased clothing and general merchandise from suburban or neighborhood centers, on the one hand, or from shops downtown, on the other. Eighty-three percent stated that they usually shopped in suburban or neighborhood areas, whereas 15 percent reported they patronized downtown stores. Although victimization experience was not significantly related to the preferred location for general shopping, some interesting variations emerged among households differentiated either by race or income. Blacks were more likely than whites to shop downtown (31 vs. 10 percent); whites evidenced a stronger preference for suburban and neighborhood stores (88 vs. 88 percent). Those with annual earnings of less than \$10,000 tended to shop downtown to a greater degree than those with higher incomes (22 and 9 percent, respectively). Some two-thirds of householders in the lowest income group did their shopping in suburban or neighborhood shopping centers, compared with nine-tenths for those in the highest income bracket examined.

Coupled with the question about places where they usually shopped for general merchandise, household respondents were also asked about reasons for preferring stores in one area over those in another. Among suburban or neighborhood buyers, the proportion of persons indicating that crime influenced their practices was nominal; moreover, the proportion of those who shopped downtown because of a fear of crime in other locations was based on too few sample cases to yield a reliable estimate. For each group of shoppers, convenience was the single most important attraction in the shopping sites they patronized. Appreciable numbers of downtown shoppers indicated that better selection and transportation were the main features, whereas suburban or neighborhood shoppers cited better parking and less traffic as relatively important considerations.

Another series of questions concerning recreation and entertainment was asked of each household member age 16 and over, including the household respondent. It was first determined whether the frequency with which each individual went out for evening entertainment (such as to restaurants, theaters, and the like) had changed during the recent past. The single largest group (43 percent of Houston residents) replied that the frequency had remained about the same; 37 percent said they went out less often; and 19 percent indicated they went out more often. In general, there were few large differences between the responses of males and females. Blacks, however, were more likely than whites to have said they went out less often (48 vs. 34 percent). Persons who had been victimized were more likely than those who had not to indicate that they went out both more often and less often—the apparent contradiction being ascribable to the difference between the proportion of persons in each group who said they had not changed their frequency of entertainment. As might be expected, age was strongly related to the frequency with which Houston residents reportedly went out for evening entertainment. Young persons (age 16–19) were far more likely to go out more often than those age 50 and over (50 vs. 7 percent).

Persons who indicated that they had altered the frequency with which they went out for evening entertainment (that is, those who said that they were going out either more often or less often) were asked about the reasons for such change. Among those who had curtailed their entertainment activities, only 4 percent specifically mentioned crime as the major reason for doing so. Residents who patronized entertainment facilities with some regularity (i.e., at least once a month) were then asked about the general location of such places. Some 91 percent of these persons usually frequented restaurants and theaters within the city. Only about 5 percent said they customarily went outside of Houston. When asked to explain their selection of one site over the other, a negligible proportion of respondents alluded to the prevalence of crime in the other location. Reasons relating to personal preference and convenience were offered far more frequently.

Following the series of questions concerning neighborhood safety and crime as a deterrent to personal mobility, individuals age 16 and over were asked to assess the overall performance of the local police and to suggest ways, if any, in which police effectiveness might be improved. Data Tables 31 through 37, derived from survey questions 14a and 14b, contain the results on which this discussion is based.

Are they doing a good, average, or poor job?

Approximately 41 percent of Houston residents stated that the police were doing a good job, 44 percent rated the police as average, and 11 percent said police performance was poor. The remaining 4 percent was made up of persons for whom no response was recorded or who had no basis for rating the police.

Among persons who evaluated the police as average, there was no significant response variation between victims and nonvictims and only a minimal difference between males and females. Blacks or younger residents were somewhat more likely than whites or older residents, respectively, to have rated the police as average. In fact, there was a tendency among older persons to rate the police as good, and of younger ones to evaluate them as average or poor, regardless of the sex or race of the respondent. Some of the differences between those who rated police job effectiveness as either good or poor were quite marked. For example, whites were about twice as likely as blacks to have rated police work as good (47 vs. 23 percent), whereas blacks were more than twice as apt as whites to have characterized it as poor (20 vs. 8 percent). Persons not victimized by crime in the previous year were more inclined than those victimized to rate police performance as good and less likely to have thought of it as poor.

How can the police improve?

Individuals who had an opinion about the quality of police performance were asked about ways in which the department might improve. Some 7 percent of these persons said that no changes were needed, and the remainder offered a variety of suggestions for improving police performance. Among

the respondents' age or race, and there was no significant difference between males and females. Non-victims were only slightly more likely than victims to have stated that no improvement was needed.

Among persons who felt there was a need to improve the work of the local police, 51 percent identified measures relating to the adequacy of personnel resources as the single most important area.⁸ Some 30 percent thought that the operational practices of the force needed revision, and about 13 percent alluded to a need for change in community relations.

In general, recommendations concerning measures for police improvement did not vary substantially among residents of each sex. In a seeming paradox, nonvictims were more likely (48 percent) than victims (37) to have suggested hiring additional personnel. The response patterns by persons of differing race or age were markedly varied, however. Whites were more likely than blacks to have preferred improvements in the field of personnel resources, whereas blacks were far more inclined to identify the functions of community relations or operational practices. By margins of roughly 2 to 1, for example, blacks indicated a need for greater promptness by the police and recommended the use of increased special patrols in certain areas or at specific times.

With respect to the age of respondents, there was a tendency for increasingly older persons to regard expansion and training of the police force as the most important step needed. The proportion of persons age 16-19 who cited this measure (30 percent) was far smaller than that of those age 65 and over (67). In contrast, younger persons tended to emphasize the need for upgrading police operations or community relations. For instance, whereas only about 5 percent of residents age 65 and over stipulated the need for better police-community relations, the corresponding figure among those age 16-19 was 22 percent.

⁸For most of this discussion, the eight detailed response items covered in question 14b were combined into three categories, as follows: *Community relations*: (1) "Be more courteous, improve attitude, community relations" and (2) "Don't discriminate." *Operational practices*: (1) "Concentrate on more important duties, serious crime, etc.," (2) "Be more prompt, responsive, alert," (3) "Need more traffic control", and (4) "Need more policemen of particular type (foot, car) in certain areas or at certain times." And, *personnel resources*: (1) "Hire more policemen" and (2) "Improve training, raise qualifications or pay, recruitment policies."

Survey data tables

The 37 statistical data tables in this appendix present the results of the Houston attitudinal survey conducted early in 1974. They are organized topically, generally paralleling the report's analytical discussion. For each subject, the data tables consist of cross-tabulations of personal (or household) characteristics and the relevant response categories. For a given population group, each table displays the percent distribution of answers to a question.

All statistical data generated by the survey are estimates that vary in their degree of reliability and are subject to variances, or errors, associated with the fact that they were derived from a sample survey rather than a complete enumeration. Constraints on interpretation and other uses of the data, as well as guidelines for determining their reliability, are set forth in Appendix III. As a general rule, however, estimates based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases have been considered unreliable. Such estimates, qualified by footnotes to the data tables, were not used for analytical purposes in this report.

Each data table parenthetically displays the size of the group for which a distribution of responses was calculated. As with the percentages, these base figures are estimates. On tables showing the answers of individual respondents (Tables 1-18 and 27-37), the figures reflect an adjustment based on an independent post-Census estimate of the city's resident population. For data from household respondents (Tables 19-26), the bases were generated solely by the survey itself.

A note beneath each data table identifies the question that served as the data source. As an expedient in preparing tables, certain response categories were reworded and/or abbreviated. The questionnaire facsimile (Appendix II) should be consulted for the exact wording of both the questions and the response categories. For questionnaire items that carried the instruction "Mark all that apply," thereby enabling a respondent to furnish more than a single answer, the data tables reflect only the answer designated by the respondent as being the most important one rather than all answers given.

The first six tables were used in preparing the "Crime Trends" section of the report. Tables 7-18 relate to the topic "Fear of Crime"; Tables 19-30 cover "Residential Problems and Lifestyles"; and the last seven tables display information concerning "Local Police Performance."

Table 7. Fear of going to parts of the metropolitan area during the day

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All persons (937,200)	100.0	11.4	86.8	1.7
Sex				
Male (444,700)	100.0	10.5	88.2	1.3
Female (492,600)	100.0	12.2	85.6	2.2
Race				
White (697,400)	100.0	11.5	86.5	2.1
Black (232,500)	100.0	11.2	88.0	0.8
Other (7,400)	100.0	13.9	84.9	1.3
Age				
16-19 (101,300)	100.0	11.0	86.6	2.4
20-24 (136,300)	100.0	11.2	86.3	2.6
25-34 (211,400)	100.0	12.2	86.3	1.5
35-49 (227,400)	100.0	11.2	87.3	1.5
50-64 (173,000)	100.0	12.6	85.9	1.5
65 and over (87,900)	100.0	8.7	89.8	1.5
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (579,200)	100.0	9.3	89.0	1.7
Victimized (358,000)	100.0	14.8	83.4	1.8

NOTE: Data based on question 13a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 8. Fear of going to parts of the metropolitan area at night

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All persons (937,200)	100.0	22.9	71.4	5.7
Sex				
Male (444,700)	100.0	22.9	73.0	4.1
Female (492,600)	100.0	22.9	70.0	7.1
Race				
White (697,400)	100.0	22.9	70.8	6.3
Black (232,500)	100.0	22.8	73.4	3.8
Other (7,400)	100.0	30.2	61.9	7.9
Age				
16-19 (101,300)	100.0	23.8	69.5	6.7
20-24 (136,300)	100.0	27.6	66.5	5.8
25-34 (211,400)	100.0	26.1	68.4	5.4
35-49 (227,400)	100.0	22.7	72.1	5.2
50-64 (173,000)	100.0	19.7	74.6	5.7
65 and over (87,900)	100.0	13.8	80.1	6.2
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (579,200)	100.0	19.4	75.1	5.5
Victimized (358,000)	100.0	28.6	65.5	6.0

NOTE: Data based on question 13b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 9. Neighborhood safety when out alone during the day

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
All persons (937,200)	100.0	56.1	37.1	5.0	1.5	0.3
Sex						
Male (444,700)	100.0	68.3	28.1	2.4	0.8	0.3
Female (492,600)	100.0	45.0	45.3	7.4	2.1	0.3
Race						
White (697,400)	100.0	59.7	34.5	4.3	1.1	0.3
Black (232,500)	100.0	45.1	44.8	7.2	2.6	0.3
Other (7,400)	100.0	53.7	43.7	2.6	10.0	0.0
Age						
16-19 (101,300)	100.0	57.9	35.4	4.7	1.8	0.2
20-24 (136,300)	100.0	57.5	36.0	5.0	1.3	0.2
25-34 (211,400)	100.0	59.6	35.7	3.5	1.2	0.0
35-49 (227,400)	100.0	55.1	37.8	5.4	1.3	0.3
50-64 (173,000)	100.0	56.4	36.5	5.2	1.3	0.6
65 and over (87,900)	100.0	44.9	44.0	7.5	3.0	0.6
Victimization experience						
Not victimized (579,200)	100.0	55.7	37.9	4.7	1.3	0.4
Victimized (358,000)	100.0	56.7	35.8	5.5	1.8	0.2

NOTE: Data based on question 11b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 10. Neighborhood safety when out alone during the day

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
Sex and age						
Male						
16-19 (49,600)	100.0	72.4	25.8	1.0	10.6	10.2
20-24 (63,100)	100.0	71.5	25.1	2.5	10.6	10.3
25-34 (105,900)	100.0	72.6	25.4	1.2	0.8	10.0
35-49 (107,300)	100.0	67.8	28.3	2.8	10.7	10.4
50-64 (82,000)	100.0	64.9	30.4	3.3	10.6	10.8
65 and over (36,800)	100.0	54.5	38.6	4.1	2.5	10.3
Female						
16-19 (51,700)	100.0	44.1	44.6	8.2	2.9	10.2
20-24 (73,200)	100.0	45.4	45.4	7.2	1.9	10.1
25-34 (105,500)	100.0	46.6	46.0	5.8	1.6	10.0
35-49 (120,100)	100.0	43.8	46.2	7.7	1.9	10.3
50-64 (91,100)	100.0	48.8	42.0	6.9	1.9	10.4
65 and over (51,100)	100.0	38.0	47.8	10.0	3.4	10.8
Race and age						
White						
16-19 (67,500)	100.0	60.9	33.8	3.9	1.3	10.0
20-24 (98,800)	100.0	61.9	32.6	4.0	1.2	10.3
25-34 (158,000)	100.0	64.4	32.4	2.4	0.8	10.0
35-49 (167,200)	100.0	59.1	34.7	4.9	1.0	10.3
50-64 (136,400)	100.0	59.6	33.8	4.9	1.1	0.7
65 and over (69,600)	100.0	46.9	43.8	6.5	2.2	10.6
Black						
16-19 (32,900)	100.0	51.6	39.0	6.1	2.7	10.6
20-24 (36,000)	100.0	45.5	44.9	8.1	1.6	10.0
25-34 (50,700)	100.0	44.6	45.6	7.2	2.6	10.0
35-49 (58,600)	100.0	44.3	46.2	6.8	2.3	10.5
50-64 (36,100)	100.0	44.7	46.6	6.1	2.2	10.3
65 and over (18,200)	100.0	37.4	44.6	11.3	6.2	10.5

NOTE: Data based on question 11b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 11. Neighborhood safety when out alone during the day

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
Race, sex, and age						
White						
Male						
16-19 (33,500)	100.0	73.7	25.1	10.9	10.3	10.0
20-24 (46,300)	100.0	75.8	21.4	11.7	10.6	10.4
25-34 (81,900)	100.0	76.1	22.4	10.7	10.7	10.0
35-49 (80,300)	100.0	71.6	24.8	2.4	10.6	10.5
50-64 (65,300)	100.0	69.1	27.1	2.6	10.3	11.0
65 and over (28,100)	100.0	57.0	37.6	3.6	11.5	10.4
Female						
16-19 (34,000)	100.0	48.3	42.4	6.9	2.4	10.0
20-24 (52,400)	100.0	49.6	42.4	6.1	1.7	10.2
25-34 (76,100)	100.0	51.8	43.2	4.2	10.8	10.0
35-49 (86,900)	100.0	47.5	43.8	7.2	1.4	10.1
50-64 (71,100)	100.0	50.8	39.9	7.0	1.8	10.4
65 and over (41,500)	100.0	40.1	48.0	8.5	2.7	10.7
Black						
Male						
16-19 (15,500)	100.0	69.0	27.7	11.3	11.3	10.7
20-24 (15,800)	100.0	58.5	35.8	5.1	10.6	10.0
25-34 (22,400)	100.0	60.3	35.5	13.2	10.9	10.0
35-49 (26,300)	100.0	56.2	39.0	4.0	10.8	10.0
50-64 (16,300)	100.0	49.6	42.9	5.7	11.8	10.0
65 and over (8,700)	100.0	46.4	41.9	15.7	16.0	10.0
Female						
16-19 (17,400)	100.0	36.0	49.1	10.4	13.9	10.5
20-24 (20,200)	100.0	35.2	52.1	10.4	12.3	10.0
25-34 (28,300)	100.0	32.2	53.5	10.3	3.9	10.0
35-49 (32,300)	100.0	34.6	52.0	9.1	3.5	10.9
50-64 (19,800)	100.0	40.7	49.7	6.5	12.5	10.6
65 and over (9,600)	100.0	29.2	47.1	16.4	16.3	11.0

NOTE: Data based on question 11b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.
 *Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 12. Neighborhood safety when out alone at night

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
All persons (937,200)	100.0	19.5	41.5	20.7	17.9	0.4
Male (444,700)	100.0	30.4	49.5	13.4	6.9	0.3
Female (492,600)	100.0	9.6	34.2	27.3	28.4	0.4
White (697,400)	100.0	21.2	42.8	20.0	15.6	0.3
Black (232,500)	100.0	14.4	37.3	22.7	25.1	0.5
Other (7,400)	100.0	14.2	48.5	26.3	11.0	10.0
Under 19 (101,300)	100.0	18.8	43.2	21.7	16.0	10.4
19-24 (136,300)	100.0	18.5	44.6	21.1	15.5	10.3
25-34 (211,400)	100.0	21.1	46.5	18.7	13.7	10.1
35-44 (227,400)	100.0	21.4	39.9	21.0	17.1	1.5
45-54 (173,000)	100.0	19.4	39.2	19.9	21.1	0.5
55 and over (87,900)	100.0	13.0	31.2	24.8	30.1	10.8
Victimization experience						
Victimized (579,200)	100.0	19.6	42.6	19.9	17.4	0.5
Not victimized (358,000)	100.0	19.3	39.6	22.1	18.8	10.2

Data based on question 11a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group. Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 13. Neighborhood safety when out alone at night

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
Sex and age						
Male						
16-19 (49,600)	100.0	30.4	53.1	11.8	4.5	10.2
20-24 (49,100)	100.0	29.3	56.5	10.6	3.4	10.2
25-34 (105,900)	100.0	33.5	51.2	11.3	4.0	10.0
35-49 (107,300)	100.0	32.2	47.3	14.1	5.8	10.6
50-64 (82,000)	100.0	29.5	47.0	15.0	8.0	10.5
65 and over (36,800)	100.0	20.2	40.0	21.5	18.1	10.3
Female						
16-19 (51,700)	100.0	7.6	33.7	31.2	27.0	10.6
20-24 (73,200)	100.0	9.2	34.3	30.2	25.9	10.4
25-34 (105,500)	100.0	8.6	41.8	26.1	23.4	10.1
35-49 (120,100)	100.0	11.7	33.3	27.3	27.3	10.4
50-64 (91,100)	100.0	10.2	32.1	24.3	32.8	10.4
65 and over (51,100)	100.0	7.9	24.9	27.3	38.8	11.2
Race and age						
White						
16-19 (67,500)	100.0	20.1	42.9	22.7	14.1	10.1
20-24 (98,800)	100.0	20.9	45.2	19.8	13.7	10.4
25-34 (158,000)	100.0	22.6	48.1	18.2	11.2	10.0
35-49 (167,200)	100.0	23.6	42.1	19.9	14.0	0.5
50-64 (136,400)	100.0	21.1	40.8	18.4	19.3	10.4
65 and over (69,600)	100.0	14.1	32.9	25.4	26.8	10.7
Black						
16-19 (32,900)	100.0	16.1	43.4	19.6	20.0	10.9
20-24 (36,000)	100.0	12.5	42.3	25.0	20.1	10.0
25-34 (50,700)	100.0	16.3	42.0	20.0	21.5	10.2
35-49 (58,600)	100.0	15.6	33.4	23.8	26.7	10.5
50-64 (36,100)	100.0	12.9	33.0	25.4	28.0	10.6
65 and over (18,200)	100.0	8.7	24.7	22.6	42.8	11.1

NOTE: Data based on question 11a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.
 *Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 14. Neighborhood safety when out alone at night

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Very safe	Reasonably safe	Somewhat unsafe	Very unsafe	Not available
Race, sex, and age						
White						
Male						
16-19 (33,500)	100.0	32.6	51.3	12.8	3.3	0.0
20-24 (46,300)	100.0	33.3	54.4	9.4	2.8	0.2
25-34 (81,900)	100.0	35.0	50.8	10.3	3.8	0.0
35-49 (80,300)	100.0	35.2	48.6	11.3	4.2	0.7
50-64 (65,300)	100.0	32.7	47.5	12.8	6.4	0.6
65 and over (28,100)	100.0	22.8	42.9	20.6	13.4	0.4
Female						
16-19 (34,000)	100.0	7.8	34.7	32.5	24.7	0.3
20-24 (52,400)	100.0	10.0	37.0	29.0	23.4	0.6
25-34 (76,100)	100.0	9.1	45.1	26.7	19.1	0.0
35-49 (86,900)	100.0	12.8	36.1	27.8	23.0	0.2
50-64 (71,100)	100.0	10.4	34.6	23.6	31.2	0.3
65 and over (41,500)	100.0	8.3	26.1	28.7	35.9	1.0
Black						
Male						
16-19 (15,500)	100.0	26.0	57.1	9.0	7.2	0.7
20-24 (15,800)	100.0	18.9	61.6	14.5	5.0	0.0
25-34 (22,400)	100.0	28.2	53.2	14.8	3.7	0.0
35-49 (26,300)	100.0	23.7	43.3	22.3	10.8	0.0
50-64 (16,300)	100.0	16.8	45.5	23.0	14.6	0.0
65 and over (8,700)	100.0	11.7	30.6	24.3	33.4	0.0
Female						
16-19 (17,400)	100.0	7.2	31.2	29.0	31.4	1.1
20-24 (20,200)	100.0	7.5	27.2	33.3	32.0	0.0
25-34 (28,300)	100.0	6.9	33.1	24.1	35.5	0.4
35-49 (32,300)	100.0	9.1	25.3	25.0	39.7	0.9
50-64 (19,800)	100.0	9.7	22.8	27.4	39.0	1.1
65 and over (9,600)	100.0	6.1	19.5	21.2	51.3	2.0

NOTE: Data based on question 11a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

**Table 15. Neighborhood dangerous enough
to consider moving elsewhere**

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All persons (364,500)	100.0	14.5	83.0	2.5
Sex				
Male (88,800)	100.0	18.3	78.8	3.0
Female (275,700)	100.0	13.2	84.4	2.4
Race				
White (249,700)	100.0	12.6	85.0	2.4
Black (712,100)	100.0	18.6	78.7	2.7
Other (2,800)	100.0	18.6	77.6	3.8
Age				
16-19 (38,600)	100.0	15.6	80.1	4.4
20-24 (50,200)	100.0	17.3	81.3	1.4
25-34 (68,600)	100.0	18.4	79.1	2.5
35-49 (87,400)	100.0	14.9	83.0	2.1
50-64 (71,200)	100.0	12.3	85.2	2.5
65 and over (48,500)	100.0	7.4	89.7	2.9
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (217,000)	100.0	10.5	86.8	2.7
Victimized (147,500)	100.0	20.3	77.4	2.3

NOTE: Data based on question 11c. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

*Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 16. Limitation or change in activities because of fear of crime

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	People in general			Total	People in neighborhood			Total	Personal		
		Yes	No	Not available		Yes	No	Not available		Yes	No	Not available
All persons (937,200)	100.0	70.9	27.3	1.8	100.0	46.8	49.1	4.9	100.0	40.9	58.8	0.3
Sex												
Male (444,700)	100.0	67.7	30.6	1.7	100.0	42.7	53.2	4.1	100.0	31.8	67.9	0.3
Female (492,600)	100.0	73.7	24.4	1.9	100.0	48.9	45.5	5.6	100.0	49.1	50.6	0.3
Race												
White (697,400)	100.0	69.2	28.9	1.9	100.0	42.1	52.7	5.1	100.0	37.0	62.7	0.3
Black (232,500)	100.0	76.5	22.0	1.4	100.0	57.9	37.8	4.3	100.0	52.6	47.1	0.3
Other (7,400)	100.0	53.4	45.2	1.4	100.0	31.8	62.8	5.4	100.0	37.1	62.9	0.0
Age												
16-19 (101,300)	100.0	68.4	30.5	1.2	100.0	44.4	52.9	2.7	100.0	34.4	65.4	0.2
20-24 (136,300)	100.0	67.3	31.4	1.3	100.0	41.2	52.9	5.9	100.0	38.0	61.6	0.4
25-34 (211,400)	100.0	68.7	30.5	0.8	100.0	44.6	50.9	4.5	100.0	39.2	60.6	0.1
35-49 (227,400)	100.0	71.6	26.5	1.8	100.0	45.6	49.5	4.9	100.0	41.1	58.6	0.3
50-64 (173,000)	100.0	75.4	21.9	2.7	100.0	50.0	45.0	5.0	100.0	44.7	55.0	0.3
65 and over (89,900)	100.0	73.8	22.4	3.8	100.0	51.4	41.7	6.9	100.0	48.4	50.6	0.9
Victimization experience												
Not victimized (579,200)	100.0	70.0	27.8	2.2	100.0	43.2	51.4	5.3	100.0	38.3	61.3	0.4
Victimized (358,000)	100.0	72.3	26.5	1.2	100.0	50.4	45.4	4.3	100.0	45.1	54.8	0.2

NOTE: Data based on questions 16a, 16b, and 16c. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 17. Personal limitation or change in activities because of fear of crime

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
Sex and age				
Male				
16-19 (49,600)	100.0	23.4	76.4	10.2
20-24 (63,100)	100.0	27.3	72.2	10.5
25-34 (105,900)	100.0	30.5	69.3	10.2
35-49 (107,300)	100.0	33.0	66.6	10.4
50-64 (82,000)	100.0	36.0	63.8	10.3
65 and over (36,800)	100.0	41.2	57.9	10.8
Female				
16-19 (51,700)	100.0	45.0	54.8	10.2
20-24 (73,200)	100.0	47.1	52.5	10.4
25-34 (105,500)	100.0	48.0	51.9	10.1
35-49 (120,100)	100.0	48.4	51.5	10.1
50-64 (91,100)	100.0	52.6	47.1	10.3
65 and over (51,100)	100.0	53.6	45.4	11.0
Race and age				
White				
16-19 (67,500)	100.0	32.0	67.9	10.1
20-24 (98,800)	100.0	34.6	65.0	10.4
25-34 (158,000)	100.0	33.8	66.0	10.2
35-49 (167,200)	100.0	36.5	63.3	10.2
50-64 (136,400)	100.0	41.1	58.7	10.3
65 and over (69,600)	100.0	45.7	53.3	11.0
Black				
16-19 (32,900)	100.0	39.9	59.9	10.3
20-24 (36,000)	100.0	47.9	51.6	10.6
25-34 (50,700)	100.0	55.9	44.1	10.0
35-49 (58,600)	100.0	54.6	45.1	10.3
50-64 (36,100)	100.0	58.2	41.5	10.3
65 and over (18,200)	100.0	59.1	40.4	10.5

NOTE: Data based on question 16c. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 18. Personal limitation or change in activities because of fear of crime

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
Race, sex, and age				
White				
Male				
16-19 (33,500)	100.0	21.1	78.6	10.3
20-24 (46,300)	100.0	24.2	75.4	10.4
25-34 (81,900)	100.0	26.3	73.5	10.2
35-49 (80,300)	100.0	28.1	71.4	10.5
50-64 (65,300)	100.0	31.4	68.3	10.3
65 and over (28,100)	100.0	36.1	62.8	11.1
Female				
16-19 (34,000)	100.0	42.6	57.4	10.0
20-24 (52,400)	100.0	43.9	55.7	10.4
25-34 (76,100)	100.0	41.8	58.0	10.1
35-49 (86,900)	100.0	44.2	55.8	10.0
50-64 (71,100)	100.0	49.9	49.8	10.3
65 and over (41,500)	100.0	52.1	46.9	11.0
Black				
Male				
16-19 (15,500)	100.0	28.6	71.4	10.0
20-24 (15,800)	100.0	37.6	61.8	10.6
25-34 (22,400)	100.0	44.3	55.7	10.0
35-49 (26,300)	100.0	47.8	52.2	10.0
50-64 (16,300)	100.0	54.0	46.0	10.0
65 and over (8,700)	100.0	57.9	42.1	10.0
Female				
16-19 (17,400)	100.0	49.9	49.5	10.5
20-24 (20,200)	100.0	56.0	43.5	10.5
25-34 (28,300)	100.0	65.1	34.9	10.0
35-49 (32,300)	100.0	60.0	39.4	10.5
50-64 (19,800)	100.0	61.5	37.9	10.6
65 and over (9,600)	100.0	60.1	38.4	11.0

NOTE: Data based on question 16c. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 19. Most important reason for selecting present neighborhood

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Always lived in neighborhood	Neighborhood characteristics	Good schools	Safe from crime	Lack of choice	Right price	Location	Characteristics of house	Other and not available
All households (253,800)	100.0	4.1	14.5	4.0	1.3	5.6	10.0	43.9	9.5	7.1
Race										
White (191,200)	100.0	4.6	12.2	4.6	1.1	4.3	9.6	48.2	8.8	6.7
Black (59,900)	100.0	2.9	22.0	1.6	1.9	10.3	11.3	30.3	11.8	8.1
Other (2,700)	100.0	¹ 0.0	¹ 16.5	¹ 12.4	¹ 0.0	¹ 0.0	¹ 12.7	41.8	¹ 6.6	¹ 10.1
Annual family income										
Less than \$3,000 (28,900)	100.0	4.1	13.1	¹ 2.2	¹ 0.9	11.0	14.9	39.8	5.6	8.4
\$3,000-\$7,499 (66,100)	100.0	4.4	17.2	2.1	1.8	7.2	12.9	41.5	6.8	6.0
\$7,500-\$9,999 (35,100)	100.0	¹ 2.2	13.0	2.5	¹ 2.0	5.7	9.6	48.6	9.3	7.2
\$10,000-\$14,999 (53,900)	100.0	4.9	15.2	4.0	¹ 0.8	4.7	9.1	43.4	11.4	6.5
\$15,000-\$24,999 (37,200)	100.0	2.4	16.1	7.4	¹ 1.4	2.3	5.9	47.1	12.4	4.8
\$25,000 or more (12,700)	100.0	¹ 4.7	8.7	11.6	¹ 0.7	¹ 1.3	¹ 4.7	45.8	16.4	¹ 6.1
Not available (19,800)	100.0	7.0	9.7	¹ 3.9	¹ 0.4	¹ 4.0	7.8	43.1	9.0	14.9
Victimization experience										
Not victimized (143,800)	100.0	4.7	15.3	3.5	1.4	5.5	10.1	42.4	9.5	7.6
Victimized (110,100)	100.0	3.3	13.6	4.6	1.2	5.8	10.0	45.8	9.4	6.4

NOTE: Data based on question 2a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 20. Most important reason for leaving former residence

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Location	Characteristics of house	Wanted better house	Wanted cheaper house	Forced out	Living arrangements changed	Influx of bad elements	Crime	Neighborhood characteristics	Other and not available
All households (253,800)	100.0	31.8	12.5	14.6	4.1	3.7	18.0	1.1	1.7	4.9	7.5
Race											
White (191,200)	100.0	35.2	12.4	13.2	3.2	3.6	17.5	1.2	1.4	4.3	8.0
Black (59,900)	100.0	19.6	13.0	19.4	6.9	4.2	20.3	¹ 0.6	2.9	6.9	6.2
Other (2,700)	100.0	57.8	¹ 9.8	¹ 9.7	¹ 9.4	¹ 0.0	¹ 3.4	¹ 0.0	¹ 0.0	¹ 3.4	¹ 6.5
Annual family income											
Less than \$3,000 (28,900)	100.0	27.5	9.6	7.4	10.1	10.2	17.1	¹ 1.6	¹ 2.5	6.0	8.1
\$3,000-\$7,499 (66,100)	100.0	29.6	13.3	11.1	5.4	3.3	18.3	¹ 0.9	2.6	5.4	10.1
\$7,500-\$9,999 (35,100)	100.0	29.7	11.7	13.4	4.0	2.3	22.3	¹ 2.2	¹ 2.2	6.3	5.8
\$10,000-\$14,999 (53,900)	100.0	32.1	13.3	18.8	2.9	2.4	17.4	¹ 0.8	¹ 1.2	4.4	6.4
\$15,000-\$24,999 (37,200)	100.0	36.0	13.8	20.2	¹ 1.4	3.0	14.3	¹ 0.7	¹ 0.9	3.9	5.7
\$25,000 or more (12,700)	100.0	40.8	15.5	15.4	¹ 0.7	¹ 2.0	16.2	¹ 0.7	¹ 0.0	¹ 2.7	¹ 6.1
Not available (19,800)	100.0	34.6	8.9	16.6	¹ 2.2	¹ 4.0	20.4	¹ 0.4	¹ 0.5	¹ 3.5	8.9
Victimization experience											
Not victimized (143,800)	100.0	32.7	12.2	15.9	4.1	4.1	17.1	1.2	1.0	4.1	7.6
Victimized (110,100)	100.0	30.6	12.8	13.0	4.3	3.1	19.2	0.9	2.6	5.9	7.5

NOTE: Data based on question 4a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 21. Whether or not there are undesirable neighborhood characteristics

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All households (424,100)	100.0	34.4	65.2	0.4
Race				
White (114,300)	100.0	32.9	66.6	0.4
Black (102,700)	100.0	39.3	60.3	0.4
Other (1,200)	100.0	18.8	81.3	0.0
Annual family income				
Less than \$3,000 (50,700)	100.0	33.6	66.0	0.4
\$3,000-\$7,499 (99,100)	100.0	34.2	65.3	0.4
\$7,500-\$9,999 (49,900)	100.0	37.2	62.0	0.7
\$10,000-\$14,999 (87,900)	100.0	36.2	63.2	0.6
\$15,000-\$24,999 (68,800)	100.0	35.4	64.3	0.2
\$25,000 or more (28,100)	100.0	27.7	72.1	0.1
Not available (39,600)	100.0	30.8	68.7	0.4
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (261,800)	100.0	29.3	70.2	0.5
Victimized (162,300)	100.0	42.5	57.1	0.4

NOTE: Data based on question 5a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 22. Most important neighborhood problem

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Traffic, parking	Environmental problems	Public Order	Transportation	Inadequate schools, shopping	Influx of bad elements	Problems with neighbors	Other and not available
All households (424,100)	100.0	10.2	43.4	9.6	1.8	3.9	6.4	24.9	0.9
Race									
White (114,300)	100.0	11.5	39.2	9.4	1.7	4.1	7.1	23.4	0.4
Black (102,700)	100.0	4.1	54.3	10.3	11.9	3.4	3.8	15.1	0.4
Other (1,200)	100.0	12.5	16.7	10.0	14.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0
Annual family income									
Less than \$3,000 (50,700)	100.0	8.4	40.3	13.7	12.6	3.2	12.3	20.4	0.1
\$3,000-\$7,499 (99,100)	100.0	7.3	41.4	12.3	2.7	3.0	7.0	20.7	0.1
\$7,500-\$9,999 (49,900)	100.0	12.3	43.6	11.4	3.4	3.8	7.0	19.2	0.1
\$10,000-\$14,999 (87,900)	100.0	11.1	40.9	8.6	3.6	3.0	7.0	19.7	0.1
\$15,000-\$24,999 (68,800)	100.0	11.1	40.7	9.3	3.8	3.0	7.0	19.4	0.1
\$25,000 or more (28,100)	100.0	10.0	26.9	17.7	11.2	3.5	11.1	15.7	0.1
Not available (39,600)	100.0	13.0	43.5	11.0	12.1	3.5	8.0	15.9	0.1
Victimization experience									
Not victimized (261,800)	100.0	11.7	44.4	11.6	1.8	4.5	7.0	23.4	0.1
Victimized (162,300)	100.0	8.4	43.3	12.9	10.8	3.2	7.0	17.4	0.1

NOTE: Data based on question 5a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 21. Whether or not there are undesirable neighborhood characteristics

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Yes	No	Not available
All households (424,100)	100.0	34.4	65.2	0.4
Race				
White (114,300)	100.0	32.9	66.6	0.4
Black (102,700)	100.0	39.3	60.3	0.4
Other (1,200)	100.0	18.8	81.3	0.0
Annual family income				
Less than \$3,000 (50,700)	100.0	33.6	66.0	0.4
\$3,000-\$7,499 (99,100)	100.0	34.2	65.3	0.4
\$7,500-\$9,999 (49,900)	100.0	37.2	62.0	0.7
\$10,000-\$14,999 (87,900)	100.0	36.2	63.2	0.6
\$15,000-\$24,999 (68,800)	100.0	35.4	64.3	0.2
\$25,000 or more (28,100)	100.0	27.7	72.1	0.1
Not available (39,600)	100.0	30.8	68.7	0.4
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (261,800)	100.0	29.3	70.2	0.5
Victimized (162,300)	100.0	42.5	57.1	0.4

NOTE: Data based on question 5a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 22. Most important neighborhood problem

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Traffic, parking	Environmental problems	Public Order	Transportation	Inadequate schools, shopping	Influx of bad elements	Problems with neighbors	Other and not available
All households (424,100)	100.0	10.2	43.4	9.6	1.8	3.9	6.4	24.9	0.8
Race									
White (114,300)	100.0	11.5	39.2	9.4	1.7	4.1	7.1	23.4	0.4
Black (102,700)	100.0	4.1	54.3	10.3	11.9	3.4	3.8	15.1	0.4
Other (1,200)	100.0	12.5	100.0	10.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Annual family income									
Less than \$3,000 (50,700)	100.0	8.4	40.3	13.7	12.6	3.2	12.3	20.4	0.1
\$3,000-\$7,499 (99,100)	100.0	7.3	41.4	12.3	2.7	3.0	7.0	23.7	0.1
\$7,500-\$9,999 (49,900)	100.0	12.3	43.6	11.4	3.4	3.8	7.0	20.2	0.1
\$10,000-\$14,999 (87,900)	100.0	7.7	40.9	8.6	3.6	3.0	7.0	23.4	0.1
\$15,000-\$24,999 (68,800)	100.0	7.3	40.7	9.3	3.8	3.0	7.0	23.4	0.1
\$25,000 or more (28,100)	100.0	10.0	26.9	17.7	11.2	3.5	3.0	15.7	0.1
Not available (39,600)	100.0	13.0	43.5	11.0	12.1	3.5	8.0	23.9	0.1
Victimization experience									
Not victimized (261,800)	100.0	11.7	44.4	7.6	1.8	4.5	7.0	23.4	0.1
Victimized (162,300)	100.0	8.4	43.3	13.9	10.8	3.2	7.0	23.4	0.1

NOTE: Data based on question 5a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 25. Preferred location for general merchandise shopping

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Household characteristic	Total	Suburban or neighborhood	Downtown	Not available
All households (424,100)	100.0	83.0	15.0	1.9
Race				
White (318,300)	100.0	88.2	10.0	1.9
Black (102,700)	100.0	67.5	30.5	2.0
Other (3,200)	100.0	68.1	23.9	7.9
Annual family income				
Less than \$3,000 (50,700)	100.0	66.1	30.6	3.3
\$3,000-\$7,499 (99,100)	100.0	78.3	20.8	0.9
\$7,500-\$9,999 (49,900)	100.0	85.0	13.4	1.6
\$10,000-\$14,999 (87,900)	100.0	88.9	9.5	1.5
\$15,000-\$24,999 (68,800)	100.0	90.7	7.9	1.4
\$25,000 or more (28,100)	100.0	90.4	8.7	10.9
Not available (39,600)	100.0	82.5	11.6	5.8
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (261,800)	100.0	82.7	15.4	2.0
Victimized (162,300)	100.0	83.6	14.5	1.9

NOTE: Data based on question 7a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

**Table 26. Most important reason for usually doing general merchandise shopping
in the suburbs (or neighborhood) or downtown**

(Percent distribution of answers by household respondents)

Type of shopper and household characteristic	Total	Better parking	Better transportation	More convenient	Better selection, more stores	Crime in other location	Better store hours	Better prices	Prefer stores, location, etc.	Other and not available
Suburban (or neighborhood) shoppers										
All households (352,100)	100.0	12.8	1.4	66.2	5.5	0.3	0.4	4.7	4.1	4.6
Race										
White (280,700)	100.0	12.5	1.3	68.2	4.9	10.3	0.4	4.1	4.0	4.4
Black (69,300)	100.0	14.3	2.3	57.8	8.1	10.4	10.3	7.5	4.4	5.0
Other (2,200)	100.0	15.8 ¹	10.0	68.3	14.0	10.0	10.0	13.9	10.0	18.3
Annual family income										
Less than \$3,000 (33,500)	100.0	6.7	5.1	62.9	7.2	10.3	10.0	8.8	5.4	3.4
\$3,000-\$7,499 (77,600)	100.0	13.4	2.0	62.0	5.7	10.0	10.7	7.7	3.8	4.7
\$7,500-\$9,999 (42,400)	100.0	14.8	11.5	62.9	5.6	10.2	10.4	4.1	5.0	5.6
\$10,000-\$14,999 (78,100)	100.0	13.4	10.5	69.8	5.3	10.7	10.5	3.2	3.0	3.4
\$15,000-\$24,999 (62,400)	100.0	11.7	10.5	71.9	5.9	10.1	10.1	2.1	3.3	4.3
\$25,000 or more (25,400)	100.0	13.2	10.3	71.9	3.4	10.0	10.3	11.7	4.7	4.4
Not available (32,700)	100.0	15.9	11.0	59.6	4.3	10.6	10.0	5.5	5.6	7.4
Victimization experience										
Not victimized (216,500)	100.0	12.7	1.7	67.5	5.1	10.2	10.2	4.4	3.9	4.3
Victimized (135,700)	100.0	13.1	1.0	64.0	6.2	10.4	10.6	5.2	4.4	5.1
Downtown shoppers										
All households (63,800)	100.0	11.0	13.3	40.9	24.5	10.6	10.1	8.2	8.3	3.2
Race										
White (31,700)	100.0	11.4	12.0	45.2	19.2	10.6	10.2	7.7	9.3	4.5
Black (31,300)	100.0	10.6	14.3	37.6	29.6	10.6	10.0	8.0	7.5	11.9
Other (1,800)	100.0	10.0	27.2	10.0	34.2	10.0	10.0	38.6	10.0	10.0
Annual family income										
Less than \$3,000 (15,600)	100.0	10.6	16.9	38.6	22.1	10.6	10.0	11.6	6.8	12.9
\$3,000-\$7,499 (20,600)	100.0	10.8	18.7	36.3	27.8	10.4	10.0	7.9	5.0	13.1
\$7,500-\$9,999 (6,700)	100.0	10.0	13.6	49.7	24.1	10.0	10.0	15.3	11.9	15.4
\$10,000-\$14,999 (8,400)	100.0	11.1	13.0	51.0	24.1	11.1	11.0	16.0	9.8	13.0
\$15,000-\$24,999 (5,500)	100.0	11.4	13.1	52.2	20.7	11.6	10.0	11.0	18.1	11.4
\$25,000 or more (2,400)	100.0	13.6	13.6	47.1	21.3	10.0	10.0	10.0	20.9	13.3
Not available (4,600)	100.0	11.9	27.3	21.3	24.8	10.0	10.0	17.4	13.5	13.9
Victimization experience										
Not victimized (40,200)	100.0	11.1	14.1	41.6	23.2	10.9	10.2	7.7	7.3	3.9
Victimized (23,500)	100.0	10.7	12.0	39.7	26.6	10.0	10.0	9.0	9.9	12.0

NOTE: Data based on question 7b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to households in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 27. Change in the frequency with which persons went out for evening entertainment

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	More	Same	Less	Not available
All persons (937,200)	100.0	19.3	43.1	37.4	
Sex					
Male (444,700)	100.0	19.9	44.1	35.8	10.2
Female (492,600)	100.0	18.8	42.2	38.9	10.1
Race					
White (697,400)	100.0	20.7	45.0	34.2	0.1
Black (232,500)	100.0	15.3	36.8	47.7	10.2
Other (7,400)	100.0	17.6	59.2	21.7	11.4
Age					
16-19 (101,300)	100.0	50.2	22.3	27.2	10.3
20-24 (136,300)	100.0	27.1	28.5	44.4	10.0
25-34 (211,400)	100.0	21.4	36.4	42.0	10.1
35-49 (227,400)	100.0	12.9	50.4	36.6	10.1
50-64 (173,000)	100.0	8.3	57.9	33.5	10.3
65 and over (87,900)	100.0	5.2	57.8	37.0	10.0
Victimization experience					
Not victimized (579,200)	100.0	17.0	47.3	35.5	0.2
Victimized (358,000)	100.0	23.1	36.3	40.6	10.1

NOTE: Data based on question 8b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 28. Most important reason for increasing or decreasing the frequency with which persons went out for evening entertainment

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Type of change in frequency and population characteristic	Total	Money	Places to go, etc.	Convenience	Own health	Transportation	Age	Family	Activities, etc.	Crime	Want to, etc.	Other and not available
Persons going out more often												
All persons (181,300)	100.0	16.7	15.4	2.7	0.8	3.8	8.8	20.1	9.1	10.1	17.5	4.9
Sex												
Male (88,500)	100.0	20.0	12.4	2.4	10.2	5.0	9.4	17.1	8.6	10.0	19.2	5.8
Female (92,800)	100.0	13.6	18.3	3.0	1.4	2.7	8.2	22.9	9.7	10.1	15.9	4.2
Race												
White (144,300)	100.0	18.4	15.7	2.5	1.0	4.0	7.4	21.3	9.1	10.0	16.0	4.7
Black (35,700)	100.0	10.7	14.0	3.7	10.3	3.1	13.8	16.0	9.2	10.3	23.1	5.9
Other (1,300)	100.0	10.0	123.9	10.0	10.0	17.6	122.2	10.0	17.3	10.0	131.1	17.7
Age												
16-19 (50,800)	100.0	8.0	20.6	10.8	10.2	10.7	27.3	5.1	5.1	10.0	17.6	4.6
20-24 (36,900)	100.0	24.0	23.5	11.1	10.3	2.6	3.7	12.6	9.4	10.0	17.6	5.3
25-34 (45,300)	100.0	26.4	9.9	4.2	10.2	10.9	10.2	25.3	10.5	10.0	18.8	3.5
35-49 (29,300)	100.0	14.9	8.2	3.4	11.0	10.4	11.0	39.3	10.2	10.3	16.3	5.0
50-64 (14,300)	100.0	7.6	9.0	7.1	13.5	10.0	11.4	36.5	12.0	10.0	14.5	8.4
65 and over (4,600)	100.0	10.0	113.4	14.7	19.0	10.0	12.2	19.8	22.2	10.0	19.7	19.0
Victimization experience												
Not victimized (98,700)	100.0	16.2	15.2	3.0	0.9	3.0	9.9	20.9	9.3	10.1	16.9	4.7
Victimized (82,600)	100.0	17.3	15.7	2.4	10.7	4.8	7.5	19.1	8.9	10.0	18.2	5.3
Persons going out less often												
All persons (350,800)	100.0	22.8	4.3	0.9	5.9	2.5	7.6	20.9	14.6	4.3	10.1	6.1
Sex												
Male (159,300)	100.0	23.8	3.2	0.8	5.5	2.3	9.6	16.5	17.4	3.2	11.0	6.7
Female (191,400)	100.0	22.0	5.2	1.0	6.3	2.7	5.9	24.5	12.2	5.2	9.5	5.5
Race												
White (238,200)	100.0	24.6	4.8	1.0	5.6	2.1	7.3	22.2	14.7	3.0	8.9	5.9
Black (111,000)	100.0	19.3	3.3	10.7	6.6	3.3	8.2	18.4	13.9	7.2	12.8	6.4
Other (1,600)	100.0	16.5	16.4	10.0	10.0	16.4	10.0	16.1	49.6	16.3	16.4	12.5
Age												
16-19 (27,600)	100.0	18.1	10.6	10.0	11.1	4.4	11.4	16.1	25.4	12.1	10.5	10.3
20-24 (60,500)	100.0	26.3	6.2	10.8	11.0	2.2	11.1	27.9	18.2	2.4	8.9	5.0
25-34 (88,900)	100.0	27.4	2.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	2.3	28.8	16.1	2.8	9.6	7.1
35-49 (83,300)	100.0	26.5	3.5	10.7	4.5	1.2	6.8	20.3	14.7	4.1	12.1	5.5
50-64 (58,000)	100.0	17.7	4.0	10.9	10.5	2.6	17.7	12.3	10.7	7.1	11.6	5.0
65 and over (32,500)	100.0	7.4	11.9	12.1	28.1	8.6	23.0	7.4	11.3	9.4	6.2	4.6
Victimization experience												
Not victimized (205,500)	100.0	21.4	4.1	0.9	7.4	3.0	9.5	20.2	13.4	4.3	9.7	6.1
Victimized (145,300)	100.0	24.8	4.6	0.8	3.9	1.8	4.9	21.8	16.3	4.4	10.8	6.0

NOTE: Data based on question 8b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group. Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 29. Places usually visited for evening entertainment

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Inside city	Outside city	About equal	Not available
All persons (688,700)	100.0	90.8	5.1	4.0	10.1
Sex					
Male (346,900)	100.0	90.8	5.1	4.0	10.0
Female (341,800)	100.0	90.8	5.1	3.9	10.1
Race					
White (542,600)	100.0	90.3	5.6	4.0	10.1
Black (139,700)	100.0	92.7	3.2	4.0	10.1
Other (6,400)	100.0	96.8	13.2	10.0	10.0
Age					
16-19 (89,200)	100.0	93.2	4.1	2.3	10.3
20-24 (122,700)	100.0	93.8	3.5	2.7	10.0
25-34 (178,600)	100.0	90.0	5.6	4.4	10.1
35-49 (160,100)	100.0	90.1	5.4	4.3	10.1
50-64 (105,800)	100.0	89.2	6.2	4.6	10.0
65 and over (32,300)	100.0	86.6	6.2	7.2	10.0
Victimization experience					
Not victimized (407,500)	100.0	89.6	5.7	4.6	10.1
Victimized (281,200)	100.0	92.6	4.2	3.1	10.0

NOTE: Data based on question 8d. Detail may not total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.
 *Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 30. Most important reason for usually seeking

(Percent distribution of responses)

Type of place and population characteristic	Total	Convenience, etc.	Parking, traffic	Crime, other
Persons entertained inside city				
All persons (625,600)	100.0	74.2	0.6	
Sex				
Male (315,100)	100.0	73.5	0.7	
Female (310,500)	100.0	74.8	0.4	
Race				
White (489,900)	100.0	73.7	0.6	
Black (129,600)	100.0	75.9	10.5	
Other (6,200)	100.0	72.0	10.0	
Age				
16-19 (83,100)	100.0	72.4	10.5	
20-24 (115,100)	100.0	74.7	10.2	
25-34 (160,700)	100.0	75.6	0.7	
35-49 (144,300)	100.0	72.1	0.6	
50-64 (94,400)	100.0	75.1	10.6	
65 and over (27,900)	100.0	76.2	11.1	
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (365,200)	100.0	74.5	0.5	
Victimized (260,400)	100.0	73.7	0.6	
Persons entertained outside city				
All persons (35,100)	100.0	39.4	6.8	
Sex				
Male (17,600)	100.0	38.2	8.5	
Female (17,500)	100.0	40.7	5.1	
Race				
White (30,500)	100.0	39.5	7.5	
Black (4,400)	100.0	38.5	12.5	
Other (200)	100.0	50.2	10.0	
Age				
16-19 (3,700)	100.0	32.4	15.4	
20-24 (4,300)	100.0	34.9	10.0	
25-34 (9,900)	100.0	38.2	15.1	
35-49 (8,700)	100.0	42.0	10.2	
50-64 (6,500)	100.0	44.7	16.1	
65 and over (2,000)	100.0	40.0	20.0	
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (23,200)	100.0	42.1	6.9	
Victimized (11,900)	100.0	34.4	6.7	

NOTE: Data based on question 8e. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

*Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

ing evening entertainment inside or outside the city

for the population age 16 and over)

e in r place	More to do	Prefer facilities	Other area more expensive	Friends, relatives	Other and not available
0.2	7.1	11.4	1.0	3.4	2.2
0.2	7.3	11.4	1.3	3.2	2.4
0.3	7.0	11.4	0.6	3.5	2.0
0.2	7.7	12.6	0.7	2.5	2.0
0.5	5.2	6.9	1.6	6.8	2.7
1.5	13.2	11.5	14.7	12.2	15.0
0.2	8.0	8.7	1.1	7.6	1.6
0.2	8.8	9.5	1.3	3.0	2.3
0.3	8.0	10.1	0.9	2.4	2.0
0.2	6.4	14.6	1.3	2.2	2.4
0.3	5.6	13.3	10.2	2.8	2.0
0.4	11.4	11.9	10.4	5.4	3.2
0.2	6.9	11.4	0.8	3.6	2.1
0.3	7.5	11.4	1.2	3.0	2.3
3.1	11.4	25.5	3.4	11.3	9.1
2.3	12.2	21.4	14.0	11.4	12.0
4.0	10.6	29.5	2.8	11.2	6.2
3.6	11.6	25.7	3.6	9.5	9.1
0.0	10.0	25.1	12.3	24.5	17.0
0.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	149.8
2.7	10.0	27.0	15.5	24.4	12.7
9.2	14.7	27.9	16.9	9.3	17.0
2.0	13.0	30.9	14.9	10.0	15.9
1.1	10.0	25.2	11.1	9.0	11.3
3.2	10.0	19.7	10.0	10.6	15.6
5.0	10.0	10.0	15.2	19.7	10.0
1.7	12.1	25.3	13.4	10.6	7.8
5.8	10.0	25.8	13.3	12.6	11.7

nding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.
ally unreliable.

Table 31. Opinion about local police performance

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know	Not available
All persons (937,200)	100.0	40.7	43.6	11.3	4.2	0.2
Sex						
Male (444,700)	100.0	41.8	42.4	12.4	3.2	0.2
Female (492,600)	100.0	39.8	44.7	10.3	5.0	0.2
Race						
White (697,400)	100.0	40.5	40.8	8.4	4.0	0.2
Black (232,500)	100.0	43.4	51.7	20.0	4.7	0.2
Other (7,400)	100.0	30.4	53.6	16.9	13.1	0.0
Age						
16-19 (101,300)	100.0	29.4	51.9	14.8	3.5	0.3
20-24 (136,300)	100.0	29.6	51.6	15.8	2.8	0.2
25-34 (211,400)	100.0	35.5	47.2	13.7	3.4	0.2
35-49 (227,400)	100.0	42.8	42.4	10.5	4.1	0.2
50-64 (173,000)	100.0	53.2	36.3	6.1	4.2	0.2
65 and over (87,900)	100.0	47.2	40.4	6.5	8.9	0.3
Victimization experience						
Not victimized (579,200)	100.0	43.2	43.2	8.4	5.0	0.2
Victimized (358,000)	100.0	36.8	44.2	15.9	2.9	0.2

NOTE: Data based on question 14a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.
¹Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases is statistically unreliable.

Table 32. Opinion about local police performance

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Total	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know	Not available
100.0	32.4	48.7	15.1	3.4	10.2
100.0	29.7	48.4	19.5	2.0	10.2
100.0	32.9	44.3	14.4	2.9	10.4
100.0	43.8	41.7	10.9	3.4	10.3
100.0	53.3	35.4	7.6	3.5	10.3
100.0	54.3	32.2	8.3	5.2	10.0
100.0	29.7	54.8	14.6	3.6	10.4
100.0	29.3	54.3	12.6	3.5	10.3
100.0	33.1	49.9	13.0	3.9	10.1
100.0	41.8	43.0	10.1	4.8	10.2
100.0	53.1	36.2	5.7	4.8	10.1
100.0	53.6	29.2	5.2	11.6	10.6
100.0	35.0	53.8	8.5	2.7	10.0
100.0	35.2	49.2	11.9	2.9	10.3
100.0	40.7	44.2	11.2	3.4	10.3
100.0	49.9	37.9	8.3	3.7	10.2
100.0	57.5	33.2	5.1	3.9	10.2
100.0	56.4	30.3	3.9	9.1	10.3
100.0	15.9	48.9	27.9	5.4	10.9
100.0	13.7	56.6	27.0	2.7	10.0
100.0	18.4	56.6	21.7	3.3	10.0
100.0	22.6	55.2	16.7	5.4	10.2
100.0	37.2	47.4	10.3	5.1	10.0
100.0	43.9	31.0	16.4	8.1	10.5

ail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.
10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 33. Opinion about local police performance

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Good	Average	Poor	Don't know	Not avail.
Race, sex, and age						
White						
Male						
16-19 (33,500)	100.0	57.2	50.8	11.2	2.7	10.0
20-24 (46,300)	100.0	57.4	47.0	15.1	3.1	10.2
25-34 (81,900)	100.0	55.1	44.1	14.1	2.7	10.5
35-49 (80,300)	100.0	52.2	42.4	8.6	3.0	10.2
50-64 (65,300)	100.0	52.4	38.1	5.7	3.1	10.3
65 and over (28,100)	100.0	51.1	35.8	3.1	3.8	10.0
Female						
16-19 (34,000)	100.0	56.4	48.1	11.2	2.7	10.0
20-24 (52,400)	100.0	56.4	42.1	7.1	3.0	10.4
25-34 (76,100)	100.0	52.1	42.1	10.0	4.0	10.1
35-49 (86,900)	100.0	46.1	38.1	8.1	4.1	10.2
50-64 (71,100)	100.0	46.1	35.1	4.1	4.7	10.1
65 and over (41,300)	100.0	46.1	28.6	3.0	11.4	10.5
Black						
Male						
16-19 (15,500)	100.0	44.1	37.1	14.4	3.0	10.7
20-24 (15,800)	100.0	44.1	35.1	11.1	3.0	10.0
25-34 (22,400)	100.0	44.1	36.0	21.0	1.0	10.0
35-49 (26,300)	100.0	44.2	34.8	18.0	4.0	10.4
50-64 (16,300)	100.0	44.1	30.8	10.4	6.0	10.0
65 and over (8,700)	100.0	44.1	30.1	11.1	11.5	10.0
Female						
16-19 (17,400)	100.0	44.1	31.5	11.9	5.5	11.1
20-24 (20,200)	100.0	44.2	39.8	23.2	3.3	10.0
25-34 (28,300)	100.0	44.1	37.1	20.8	3.3	10.0
35-49 (32,300)	100.0	44.1	35.4	15.7	3.5	10.0
50-64 (19,800)	100.0	44.1	44.7	10.1	3.1	10.0
65 and over (9,700)	100.0	44.2	31.7	12.1	11.2	11.0

NOTE: Data based on question 14a. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.
 *Estimate, based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Most Important

Total

Personnel re

Total

More pol

Better

Operational

Total

Focus or

duties

Greater

Increase

More pol

areas,

Community re

Total

Courtesy

Don't d:

Other

NOTE: Data

Estimate,

Table 34. Whether or not local police performance needs improvement

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Yes	No	% available
All persons (297,000)	100.0	89.1	10.9	99.1
Sex				
Male (149,100)	100.0	88.8	11.2	99.1
Female (147,900)	100.0	89.4	10.6	99.8
Race				
White (171,100)	100.0	89.2	10.8	99.1
Black (111,100)	100.0	91.1	8.9	99.7
Other (14,800)	100.0	93.0	7.0	99.4
Age				
16-19 (21,400)	100.0	89.2	10.8	99.1
20-24 (19,100)	100.0	91.6	8.4	99.5
25-34 (113,100)	100.0	91.4	8.6	99.1
35-44 (77,900)	100.0	88.2	11.8	99.1
45-54 (111,500)	100.0	89.1	10.9	99.9
55 and over (49,000)	100.0	90.1	9.9	99.1
Victimization experience				
Not victimized (149,000)	100.0	89.1	10.9	99.1
Victimized (147,000)	100.0	90.2	9.8	99.1

Notes: Data based on question 14b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 35. Most important measure for improving local police performance

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Measure	Sex			Race			Age				
	All persons (297,400)	Male (145,600)	Female (151,800)	White (177,500)	Black (164,400)	Other (5,500)	16-19 (67,400)	20-24 (99,600)	25-34 (154,700)	35-49 (161,500)	50-64 (123,000)
Resources	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Police	51.4	51.6	50.7	59.4	26.7	57.8	30.4	40.4	50.1	53.9	60.0
Training	43.4	42.8	43.9	49.9	23.4	54.2	25.0	32.0	40.6	46.2	54.0
Practices	34.2	34.9	33.6	9.4	3.3	33.6	5.4	8.4	9.4	7.8	7.7
More important, etc.	29.2	27.1	32.1	25.1	42.8	31.0	42.0	34.8	30.4	27.2	23.3
Promptness, etc.	24.3	24.4	24.1	7.4	11.0	15.6	13.3	11.5	10.9	6.7	5.0
Traffic control	14.2	14.8	13.7	7.0	13.9	14.3	11.5	11.6	7.9	8.3	7.7
Certain times	14.1	14.3	14.0	1.1	1.1	11.8	1.4	1.4	1.1	1.1	0.0
Relations	11.4	10.4	12.3	9.6	16.8	19.4	15.7	10.3	12.6	11.1	9.0
Attitudes, etc.	13.3	14.6	12.0	9.4	25.0	11.2	22.3	18.9	13.9	11.7	8.0
Discriminate	10.0	11.0	9.1	7.6	17.3	8.8	15.4	14.9	10.4	9.1	6.0
	3.3	3.6	3.0	1.8	7.7	2.3	6.8	4.0	3.4	2.6	2.7
	5.9	6.6	5.2	6.1	5.4	10.0	5.3	5.8	5.6	7.2	5.0

Notes: Data based on question 14b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group. Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

Table 36. Most important measure for improving local police performance

Percent of respondents who ranked the measure as most important

Population characteristics	Increasing police presence	Improving police training	Improving police supervision	Other
Sex and age				
Male				
18-24 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
25-34 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
35-44 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
45-54 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
55-64 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
65 and over (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Female				
18-24 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
25-34 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
35-44 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
45-54 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
55-64 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
65 and over (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Race and age				
White				
18-24 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
25-34 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
35-44 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
45-54 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
55-64 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
65 and over (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
Black				
18-24 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
25-34 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
35-44 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
45-54 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
55-64 (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1
65 and over (10.1%)	10.1	10.1	10.1	10.1

Note: The data are based on the results of a survey of police officers and citizens. The survey was conducted in 1991. The data are presented in the following table. The data are presented in the following table. The data are presented in the following table.

Table 37. Most important measure for improving local police performance

(Percent distribution of responses for the population age 16 and over)

Population characteristic	Total	Personnel resources	Operational practices	Community relations	Other
Race, sex, and age					
White					
Male					
16-19 (23,200)	100.0	34.4	38.9	20.2	6.4
20-24 (33,300)	100.0	52.1	26.3	17.3	4.3
25-34 (61,600)	100.0	58.0	23.4	12.3	6.4
35-49 (57,600)	100.0	60.9	21.7	6.4	10.9
50-64 (49,400)	100.0	67.4	17.8	6.7	8.1
65 and over (18,900)	100.0	72.0	21.0	13.2	13.8
Female					
16-19 (21,200)	100.0	43.1	37.4	16.7	12.8
20-24 (37,300)	100.0	45.4	37.9	11.1	5.7
25-34 (54,200)	100.0	58.3	29.9	6.9	5.0
35-49 (60,600)	100.0	63.0	21.9	8.6	6.4
50-64 (48,600)	100.0	71.9	20.9	5.0	3.0
65 and over (21,000)	100.0	71.2	18.2	5.3	5.3
Black					
Male					
16-19 (10,400)	100.0	15.2	51.2	26.7	16.9
20-24 (13,000)	100.0	20.2	33.7	36.1	10.0
25-34 (16,700)	100.0	28.4	35.6	32.9	13.1
35-49 (19,500)	100.0	31.4	37.9	27.9	12.7
50-64 (12,400)	100.0	38.4	32.2	24.4	14.9
65 and over (6,400)	100.0	50.9	42.8	14.7	11.6
Female					
16-19 (12,100)	100.0	11.9	49.4	32.5	16.2
20-24 (14,800)	100.0	17.6	49.0	27.0	6.4
25-34 (20,100)	100.0	21.5	49.1	22.3	7.2
35-49 (22,000)	100.0	29.6	46.2	20.3	3.9
50-64 (12,100)	100.0	29.0	47.0	17.6	16.4
65 and over (4,900)	100.0	49.4	32.9	17.9	19.7

NOTE: Data based on question 14b. Detail may not add to total because of rounding. Figures in parentheses refer to population in the group.

¹Estimate, based on about 10 or fewer sample cases, is statistically unreliable.

8

Survey Instrument

Form NCS 6, the attitude survey instrument, contains two batteries of questions. The first of these, covering items 1 through 7, was used to elicit data from a knowledgeable adult member of each household (i.e., the household respondent). Questions 8 through 16 were asked directly of each household member age 16 and over, including the household respondent. Unlike the procedure followed in the victimization component of the survey, there was no provision for proxy responses on behalf of individuals who were absent or incapacitated during the interviewing period.

Data on the characteristics of those interviewed, as well as details concerning any experiences as victims of the measured crimes, were gathered with separate instruments, Forms NCS 3 and 4, which were administered immediately after NCS 6. Following is a facsimile of the latter questionnaire; supplemental forms were available for use in households where more than three persons were interviewed. Facsimiles of Forms NCS 3 and 4 have not been included in this report but can be found in its companion volume, *Criminal Victimization Surveys* (in Houston, 1977).

<p>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS ADMINISTRATION BUREAU OF THE CENSUS</p> <p>NATIONAL CRIME SURVEY CENTRAL CITIES SAMPLE</p> <p>ATTITUDE QUESTIONNAIRE</p>		<p>NOTICE - Your report to the Census Bureau is confidential by law (Title 13, U.S. Code). It may be seen only by sworn Census employees and may be used only for statistical purposes.</p> <p>A. Control number</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">PSU</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Serial</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Panel</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">HH</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">Segment</td> </tr> </table>		PSU	Serial	Panel	HH	Segment
PSU	Serial	Panel	HH	Segment				
<p>B. Name of household head</p> <p>C. Reason for noninterview</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> TYPE A 2 <input type="checkbox"/> TYPE B 3 <input type="checkbox"/> TYPE C</p> <p>Race of head</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> White</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Negro</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>TYPE 2</p> <p>Interview not obtained for -</p> <p>Line number</p>		<p>4a. Why did you leave there? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Location - closer to job, family, friends, school, shopping, etc., here</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> House (apartment) or property characteristics - size, quality, yard space, etc.</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted better housing, own home</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Wanted cheaper housing</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> No choice - evicted, building demolished, condemned, etc.</p> <p>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Change in living arrangements - marital status, wanted to live alone, etc.</p> <p>7 <input type="checkbox"/> Bad element moving in</p> <p>8 <input type="checkbox"/> Crime in old neighborhood, afraid</p> <p>9 <input type="checkbox"/> Didn't like neighborhood characteristics - environment, problems with neighbors, etc.</p> <p>10 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____</p> <p>(If more than one reason)</p> <p>b. Which reason would you say was the most important?</p> <p>Enter item number _____</p>						
<p>CENSUS USE ONLY</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">316</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">317</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">318</td> <td style="width: 25%; text-align: center;">319</td> </tr> </table>		316	317	318	319	<p>5a. Is there anything you don't like about this neighborhood?</p> <p>0 <input type="checkbox"/> No - SKIP to 6a</p> <p>Yes - What? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic, parking</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental problems - trash, noise, overcrowding, etc.</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Crime or fear of crime</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Public transportation problem</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate schools, shopping facilities, etc.</p> <p>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Bad element moving in</p> <p>7 <input type="checkbox"/> Problems with neighbors, characteristics of neighbors</p> <p>8 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____</p> <p>(If more than one answer)</p> <p>b. Which problem would you say is the most serious?</p> <p>Enter item number _____</p>		
316	317	318	319					
<p>HOUSEHOLD ATTITUDE QUESTIONS</p> <p>Ask only household respondent</p> <p>Before we get to the major portion of the survey, I would like to ask you a few questions related to subjects which seem to be of some concern to people. These questions ask you what you think, what you feel, your attitudes and opinions.</p> <p>1. How long have you lived at this address?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 1 year</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 years</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> 3-5 years</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> More than 5 years - SKIP to 5a</p> <p>ASK 2a.</p>		<p>6a. Do you do your major food shopping in this neighborhood?</p> <p>0 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - SKIP to 7a</p> <p>No - Why not? Anything else? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> No stores in neighborhood, others more convenient</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Stores in neighborhood inadequate, prefers (better) stores elsewhere</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> High prices, commissary or PX cheaper</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Crime or fear of crime</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____</p> <p>(If more than one reason)</p> <p>b. Which reason would you say is the most important?</p> <p>Enter item number _____</p>						
<p>2a. Why did you select this particular neighborhood? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood characteristics - type of neighbors, environment, streets, parks, etc.</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Good schools</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Safe from crime</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Only place housing could be found, lack of choice</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Price was right</p> <p>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Location - close to job, family, friends, school, shopping, etc.</p> <p>7 <input type="checkbox"/> House (apartment) or property characteristics - size, quality, yard space, etc.</p> <p>8 <input type="checkbox"/> Always lived in this neighborhood</p> <p>9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____</p> <p>(If more than one reason)</p> <p>b. Which reason would you say was the most important?</p> <p>Enter item number _____</p>		<p>7a. When you shop for things other than food, such as clothing and general merchandise, do you USUALLY go to suburban or neighborhood shopping centers or do you shop "downtown?"</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban or neighborhood</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Downtown</p> <p>b. Why is that? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Better parking, less traffic</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Better transportation</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> More convenient</p> <p>4 <input type="checkbox"/> Better selection, more stores, more choice</p> <p>5 <input type="checkbox"/> Afraid of crime</p> <p>6 <input type="checkbox"/> Store hours better</p> <p>7 <input type="checkbox"/> Better prices</p> <p>8 <input type="checkbox"/> Prefers (better) stores, location, service, employees</p> <p>9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other - Specify _____</p> <p>(If more than one reason)</p> <p>c. Which one would you say is the most important reason?</p> <p>Enter item number _____</p>						
<p>3a. Where did you live before you moved here?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> Outside U.S.</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Inside limits of this city - SKIP to 4a</p> <p>3 <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhere else in U.S. - Specify _____</p> <p>_____ State</p> <p>_____ County</p> <p>b. Did you live inside the limits of a city, town, village, etc.?</p> <p>1 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>2 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Enter name of city, town, etc. _____</p>		<p>324 <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>325 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p>						
<p>INTERVIEWER - Complete interview with household respondent, beginning with Individual Attitude Questions.</p>								

INDIVIDUAL-ATTITUDE QUESTIONS - Ask each household member 16 or older

NEVER - BEGIN NEW RECORD

337 Line number None

338 a. How often do you go out in the evening for entertainment, such as to restaurants, theaters, etc.?

1 ☐ Once a week or more 4 ☐ 2 or 3 times a year
2 ☐ Less than once a week - more than once a month 5 ☐ Less than 2 or 3 times a year or never
3 ☐ About once a month

339 b. Do you go to these places more or less now than you did a year or two ago?

1 ☐ About the same - SKIP to Check Item A
2 ☐ More
3 ☐ Less

340 Why? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ Money situation 7 ☐ Family reasons (marriage, children, parents)
2 ☐ Places to go, people to go with 8 ☐ Activities, job, school
3 ☐ Convenience 9 ☐ Crime or fear of crime
4 ☐ Health (own) 10 ☐ Want to, like to, enjoyment
5 ☐ Transportation 11 ☐ Other - Specify _____
6 ☐ Age

(If more than one reason)

341 c. Which reason would you say is the most important?

Enter item number _____

342 CHECK ITEM A Is box 1, 2, or 3 marked in 3a? ☐ No - SKIP to 3a ☐ Yes - ASK B

343 d. When you do go out to restaurants or theaters in the evening, is it usually in the city or outside of the city?

1 ☐ Usually in the city
2 ☐ Usually outside of the city
3 ☐ About equal - SKIP to 3a

344 e. Why do you usually go (outside the city in the city)? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ More convenient, familiar, easier to get there, only place available
2 ☐ Parking problems, traffic
3 ☐ Too much crime in other place
4 ☐ More to do
5 ☐ Prefer (better) facilities (restaurants, theaters, etc.)
6 ☐ More expensive in other area
7 ☐ Because of friends, relatives
8 ☐ Other - Specify _____

(If more than one reason)

345 f. Which reason would you say is the most important?

Enter item number _____

346 g. Now I'd like to get your opinions about crime in general. Within the past year or two, do you think that crime in your neighborhood has increased, decreased, or remained about the same?

1 ☐ Increased 4 ☐ Don't know - SKIP to c
2 ☐ Decreased 5 ☐ Haven't lived here that long - SKIP to c
3 ☐ Same - SKIP to c

347 h. Were you thinking about any specific kinds of crimes when you said you think crime in your neighborhood has (increased/decreased)?

0 ☐ No Yes - What kinds of crimes? _____

348 c. Now about any crimes which may be happening in your neighborhood - would you say they are committed mostly by the people who live here in this neighborhood or mostly by outsiders?

1 ☐ No crimes happening in neighborhood 3 ☐ Outsiders
2 ☐ People living here 4 ☐ Equally by both
5 ☐ Don't know

349 10a. Within the past year or two do you think that crime in the United States has increased, decreased, or remained about the same?

1 ☐ Increased ASK b 3 ☐ Same
2 ☐ Decreased 4 ☐ Don't know SKIP to 11a

350 b. Were you thinking about any specific kinds of crimes when you said you think crime in the U.S. has (increased/decreased)?

0 ☐ No Yes - What kinds of crimes? _____

351 11a. How safe do you feel or would you feel being out alone in your neighborhood AT NIGHT?

1 ☐ Very safe 3 ☐ Somewhat unsafe
2 ☐ Reasonably safe 4 ☐ Very unsafe

352 b. How about DURING THE DAY - how safe do you feel or would you feel being out alone in your neighborhood?

1 ☐ Very safe 3 ☐ Somewhat unsafe
2 ☐ Reasonably safe 4 ☐ Very unsafe

353 CHECK ITEM B Look at 11a and b. Was box 3 or 4 marked in either item? ☐ Yes - ASK 11c ☐ No - SKIP to 12

354 11c. Is the neighborhood dangerous enough to make you think seriously about moving somewhere else?

0 ☐ No - SKIP to 12
Yes - Why don't you? Any other reason? (Mark all that apply)
1 ☐ Can't afford to 2 ☐ Can't find other housing
3 ☐ Relatives, friends nearby 4 ☐ Convenient to work, etc.
5 ☐ Plan to move soon
6 ☐ Health or age
7 ☐ Other - Specify _____

(If more than one reason)

355 d. Which reason would you say is the most important?

Enter item number _____

356 12. How do you think your neighborhood compares with others in this metropolitan area in terms of crime? Would you say it is -

1 ☐ Much more dangerous? 4 ☐ Less dangerous?
2 ☐ More dangerous? 5 ☐ Much less dangerous?
3 ☐ About average?

357 13a. Are there some parts of this metropolitan area where you have a reason to go or would like to go DURING THE DAY, but are afraid to because of fear of crime?

0 ☐ No Yes - Which section(s)? _____

358 b. How about AT NIGHT - are there some parts of this area where you have a reason to go or would like to go but are afraid to because of fear of crime?

0 ☐ No Yes - Which section(s)? _____

359 Number of specific places mentioned _____

360 14a. Would you say, in general, that your local police are doing a good job, an average job, or a poor job?

1 ☐ Good 3 ☐ Poor
2 ☐ Average 4 ☐ Don't know - SKIP to 15a

361 b. In what ways could they improve? Any other ways? (Mark all that apply)

1 ☐ No improvement needed - SKIP to 15a
2 ☐ Hire more policemen
3 ☐ Concentrate on more important duties, serious crime, etc.
4 ☐ Be more prompt, responsive, alert
5 ☐ Improve training, raise qualifications or pay, recruitment policies
6 ☐ Be more courteous, improve attitude, community relations
7 ☐ Don't discriminate
8 ☐ Need more traffic control
9 ☐ Need more policemen of particular type (foot, car) in certain areas or at certain times
10 ☐ Don't know
11 ☐ Other - Specify _____

(If more than one way)

362 c. Which would you say is the most important?

Enter item number _____

363 15a. Now I have some more questions about your opinions concerning crime. Please take this card. (Hand respondent Attitude Flashcard, MCS-574) Look at the FIRST set of statements. Which one do you agree with most?

1 ☐ My chances of being attacked or robbed have GONE UP in the past few years
2 ☐ My chances of being attacked or robbed have GONE DOWN in the past few years
3 ☐ My chances of being attacked or robbed haven't changed in the past few years
4 ☐ No opinion

364 b. Which of the SECOND group do you agree with most?

1 ☐ Crime is LESS serious than the newspapers and TV say
2 ☐ Crime is MORE serious than the newspapers and TV say
3 ☐ Crime is about as serious as the newspapers and TV say
4 ☐ No opinion

365 16a. Do you think PEOPLE IN GENERAL have limited or changed their activities in the past few years because they are afraid of crime?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

366 b. Do you think that most PEOPLE IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD have limited or changed their activities in the past few years because they are afraid of crime?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

367 c. In general, have YOU limited or changed your activities in the past few years because of crime?

1 ☐ Yes 2 ☐ No

INTERVIEWER - Continue interview with this respondent on MCS-3

Technical information and reliability of the estimates

Survey results contained in this publication are based on data gathered during early 1974 from persons residing within the city limits of Houston, including those living in certain types of group quarters, such as dormitories, rooming houses, and religious group dwellings. Nonresidents of the city, including tourists and commuters, did not fall within the scope of the survey. Similarly, crewmembers of merchant vessels, Armed Forces personnel living in military barracks, and institutionalized persons, such as correctional facility inmates, were not under consideration. With these exceptions, all persons age 16 and over living in units designated for the sample were eligible to be interviewed.

Each interviewer's first contact with a unit selected for the survey was in person, and, if it were not possible to secure interviews with all eligible members of the household during the initial visit, interviews by telephone were permissible thereafter. Proxy responses were not permitted for the attitude survey. Survey records were processed and weighted, yielding results representative both of the city's population as a whole and of various sectors within the population. Because they are based on a sample survey rather than a complete enumeration, the results are estimates.

Sample design and size

Estimates from the survey are based on data obtained from a stratified sample. The basic frame from which the attitude sample was drawn—the city's complete housing inventory, as determined by the 1970 Census of Population and Housing—was the same as that for the victimization survey. A determination was made that a sample roughly half the size of the victimization sample would yield enough attitudinal data on which to base reliable estimates. For the purpose of selecting the victimization sample, the city's housing units were distributed among 105 strata on the basis of various characteristics. Occupied units, which comprised the majority, were grouped into 100 strata defined by a combination of the following characteristics: type of tenure (owned or rented); number of household members (five categories); household income (five categories); and race of head of household (white or other than white). Housing units vacant at the time of the Census were assigned to an additional four

strata, where they were distributed on the basis of rental or property value. A single stratum incorporated group quarters.

To account for units built after the 1970 Census, a sample was drawn, by means of an independent clerical operation, of permits issued for the construction of residential housing within the city. This enabled the proper representation in the survey of persons occupying housing built after 1970.

In order to develop the half sample required for the attitude survey, each unit was randomly assigned to 1 of 12 panels, with units in the first 6 panels being designated for the attitude survey. This procedure resulted in the selection of 6,199 housing units. During the survey period, 1,139 of these units were found to be vacant, demolished, converted to nonresidential use, temporarily occupied by nonresidents, or otherwise ineligible for both the victimization and attitude surveys. At an additional 194 units visited by interviewers it was impossible to conduct interviews because the occupants could not be reached after repeated calls, did not wish to participate in the survey, or were unavailable for other reasons. Therefore, interviews were taken with the occupants of 4,866 housing units, and the rate of participation among units qualified for interviewing was 96.2 percent. Participating units were occupied by a total of 9,748 persons age 16 and over, or an average of 2.0 residents of the relevant ages per unit. Interviews were conducted with 9,357 of these persons, resulting in a response rate of 96.0 percent among eligible residents.

Estimation procedure

Data records generated by the attitude survey were assigned either of two sets of final tabulation weights, one for the records of individual respondents and another for those of household respondents. In each case, the final weight was the product of two elements—a factor of roughly twice the weight used in tabulating victimization data estimates and a ratio estimation factor. The following steps determined the tabulation weight for personal victimization data and were, therefore, an integral part of the estimation procedure for attitude data gathered from individual respondents: (1) a basic weight, reflecting the selected unit's probability of being included in the sample; (2) a factor to compensate for the subsampling of units, a situation that arose in instances where the interviewer discovered many more units at the sample address than had been listed in the decennial Census; (3) a within-household noninterview adjustment to account for situations where at least

one but not all eligible persons in a household were interviewed; (4) a household noninterview adjustment to account for households qualified to participate in the survey but from which an interview was not obtained; (5) a household ratio estimate factor for bringing estimates developed from the sample of 1970 housing units into adjustment with the complete Census count of such units; and (6) a population ratio estimate factor that brought the sample estimate into accord with post-Census estimates of the population age 12 and over and adjusted the data for possible biases resulting from undercoverage or overcoverage of the population.

The household ratio estimation procedure (step 5) achieved a slight reduction in the extent of sampling variability, thereby reducing the margin of error in the tabulated survey results. It also compensated for the exclusion from each stratum of any households already included in samples for certain other Census Bureau programs. The household ratio estimator was not applied to interview records gathered from residents of group quarters or of units constructed after the Census. For household victimization data (and attitude data from household respondents), the final weight incorporated all of the steps described above except the third and sixth.

The ratio estimation factor, second element of the final weight, was an adjustment for bringing data from the attitude survey (which, as indicated, was based on a half sample) into accord with data from the victimization survey (based on the whole sample). This adjustment, required because the attitude sample was randomly constructed from the victimization sample, was used for the age, sex, and race characteristics of respondents.

Reliability of estimates

As previously noted, survey results contained in this report are estimates. Despite the precautions taken to minimize sampling variability, the estimates were subject to errors arising from the fact that the sample employed was only one of a large number of possible samples of equal size that could have been used applying the sample design and selection procedures. Estimates derived from different samples may vary somewhat; they also may differ from figures developed from the average of all possible samples, even if the surveys were administered with the same schedules, instructions, and interviewers.

The standard error of a survey estimate is a measure of the variation among estimates from all possible samples and is, therefore, a gauge of the precision with which the estimate from a particular

sample approximates the average result of all possible samples. The estimate and its associated standard error may be used to construct a confidence interval, that is, an interval having a prescribed probability that it would include the average result of all possible samples. The average value of all possible samples may or may not be contained in any particular computed interval. However, the chances are about 68 out of 100 that a survey-derived estimate would differ from the average result of all possible samples by less than one standard error. Similarly, the chances are about 90 out of 100 that the difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error; about 95 out of 100 that the difference would be 2.0 times the standard error; and 99 out of 100 chances that it would be less than 2.5 times the standard error. The 68 percent confidence interval is defined as the range of values given by the estimate minus the standard error and the estimate plus the standard error; the chances are 68 in 100 that the average value of all possible samples would fall within that range. Similarly, the 95 percent confidence interval is defined as the estimate plus or minus two standard errors.

In addition to sampling error, the estimates presented in this report are subject to nonsampling error, chiefly affecting the accuracy of the distinction between victims and nonvictims. A major source of nonsampling error is related to the ability of respondents to recall whether or not they were victimized during the 12 months prior to the time of interview. Research on recall indicates that the ability to remember a crime varies with the time interval between victimization and interview, the type of crime, and, perhaps, the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondent. Taken together, recall problems may result in an understatement of the "true" number of victimized persons and households, as defined for the purpose of this report. Another source of nonsampling error pertaining to victimization experience involves telescoping, or bringing within the appropriate 12-month reference period victimizations that occurred before or after the close of the period.

Although the problems of recall and telescoping probably weakened the differentiation between victims and nonvictims, these would not have affected the data on personal attitudes or behavior. Nevertheless, such data may have been affected by nonsampling errors resulting from incomplete or erroneous responses, systematic mistakes introduced by interviewers, and improper coding and processing of data. Many of these errors also would occur in

a complete census. Quality control measures, such as interviewer observation and a reinterview program, as well as edit procedures in the field and at the clerical and computer processing stages, were utilized to keep such errors at an acceptably low level. As calculated for this survey, the standard errors partially measure only those random nonsampling errors arising from response and interviewer errors; they do not, however, take into account any systematic biases in the data.

Regarding the reliability of data, it should be noted that estimates based on zero or on about 10 or fewer sample cases have been considered unreliable. Such estimates are identified in footnotes to the data tables and were not used for purposes of analysis in this report. For Houston, a minimum weighted estimate of 800 was considered statistically reliable, as was any percentage based on such a figure.

Computation and application of the standard error

For survey estimates relevant to either the individual or household respondents, standard errors displayed on tables at the end of this appendix can be used for gauging sampling variability. These errors are approximations and suggest an order of magnitude of the standard error rather than the precise error associated with any given estimate. Table I contains standard error approximations applicable to information from individual respondents and Table II gives errors for data derived from household respondents. For percentages not specifically listed in the tables, linear interpolation must be used to approximate the standard error.

To illustrate the application of standard errors in measuring sampling variability, Data Table I in this report shows that 75.7 percent of all Houston residents age 16 and over (937,200 persons) believed crime in the United States had increased. Two-way linear interpolation of data listed in Table I would yield a standard error of about 0.5 percent. Consequently, chances are 68 out of 100 that the estimated percentage of 75.7 would be within 0.5 percentage points of the average result from all possible samples; i.e., the 68 percent confidence interval associated with the estimate would be from 75.2 to 76.2. Furthermore, the chances are 95 out of 100 that the estimated percentage would be roughly within 1.0 percentage point of the average for all samples; i.e., the 95 percent confidence interval would be about 74.7 to 76.7 percent. Standard errors associated with data from household respondents are calculated in the same manner, using Table II.

In comparing two sample estimates, the standard error of the difference between the two figures is approximately equal to the square root of the sum of the squares of the standard errors of each estimate considered separately. As an example, Data Table 12 shows that 30.4 percent of males and 9.6 percent of females felt very safe when out alone in the neighborhood at night, a difference of 20.8 percentage points. The standard error for each estimate, determined by interpolation, was about 0.8 (males) and 0.5 (females). Using the formula described previously, the standard error of the difference between 30.4 and 9.6 percent is expressed as $\sqrt{(0.8)^2 + (0.5)^2}$, which equals approximately 0.9. Thus, the confidence interval at one standard error around the difference of 20.8 would be from 19.9 to 21.7 (20.8 plus or minus 0.9) and at two standard errors from 19.0 to 22.6. The ratio of a difference to its standard error defines a value that can be equated to a level of significance. For example, a ratio of about 2.0 (or more) denotes that the difference is significant at the 95 percent confidence level (or higher); a ratio ranging between about 1.6 and 2.0 indicates that the difference is significant at a confidence level between 90 and 95 percent; and a ratio of less than about 1.6 defines a level of confidence below 90 percent. In the above example, the ratio of the difference (20.8) to the standard error (0.9) is equal to 23.1, a figure well above the 2.0 minimum level of confidence applied in this report. Thus, it was concluded that the difference between the two proportions was statistically significant. For data gathered from household respondents, the significance of differences between two sample estimates is tested by the same procedures, using standard errors in Table II.

Table I. Individual respondent data: Standard error approximations for estimated percentages

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of percent	Estimated percent of answers by individual respondents					
	1.0 or 99.0	2.5 or 97.5	5.0 or 95.0	10.0 or 90.0	25.0 or 75.0	50.0
100	10.8	17.0	23.8	32.7	47.2	54.5
250	6.9	10.8	15.0	20.7	29.9	34.5
500	4.9	7.6	10.6	14.6	21.1	24.4
1,000	3.4	5.4	7.5	10.3	14.9	17.2
2,500	2.2	3.4	4.8	6.5	9.4	10.9
5,000	1.5	2.4	3.4	4.6	6.7	7.7
10,000	1.1	1.7	2.4	3.3	4.7	5.5
25,000	0.7	1.1	1.5	2.1	3.0	3.4
50,000	0.5	0.8	1.1	1.5	2.1	2.4
100,000	0.4	0.5	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.7
250,000	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.9	1.1
500,000	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.8
1,000,000	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.5

NOTE: The standard errors in this table are applicable to the information in Data Tables 1-18 and 27-37.

Table II. Household respondent data: Standard error approximations for estimated percentages

(68 chances out of 100)

Base of percent	Estimated percent of answers by household respondents					
	1.0 or 99.0	2.5 or 97.5	5.0 or 95.0	10.0 or 90.0	25.0 or 75.0	50.0
100	9.2	14.5	20.2	27.8	40.1	46.3
250	5.8	9.1	12.8	17.6	25.4	29.3
500	4.1	6.5	9.0	12.4	17.9	20.7
1,000	2.9	4.6	6.4	8.8	12.7	14.6
2,500	1.8	2.9	4.0	5.6	8.0	9.3
5,000	1.3	2.0	2.9	3.9	5.7	6.5
10,000	0.9	1.4	2.0	2.8	4.0	4.6
25,000	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.8	2.5	2.9
50,000	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.8	2.1
100,000	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.5
250,000	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.9
500,000	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7

NOTE: The standard errors in this table are applicable to the information in Data Tables 19-26.

Glossary

Age—The appropriate age category is determined by each respondent's age as of the last day of the month preceding the interview.

Annual family income—Includes the income of the household head and all other related persons residing in the same household unit. Covers the 12 months preceding the interview and includes wages, salaries, net income from business or farm, pensions, interest, dividends, rent, and any other form of monetary income. The income of persons unrelated to the head of household is excluded.

Assault—An unlawful physical attack, whether aggravated or simple, upon a person. Includes attempted assaults with or without a weapon. Excludes rape and attempted rape, as well as attacks involving theft or attempted theft, which are classified as robbery.

Burglary—Unlawful or forcible entry of a residence, usually, but not necessarily, attended by theft. Includes attempted forcible entry.

Central city—The largest city of a standard metropolitan statistical area (SMSA).

Community relations—Refers to question 14b (ways of improving police performance) and includes two response categories: "Be more courteous, improve attitude, community relations" and "Don't discriminate."

Downtown shopping area—The central shopping district of the city where the respondent lives.

Evening entertainment—Refers to entertainment available in public places, such as restaurants, theaters, bowling alleys, nightclubs, bars, ice cream parlors, etc. Excludes club meetings, shopping, and social visits to the homes of relatives or acquaintances.

General merchandise shopping—Refers to shopping for goods other than food, such as clothing, furniture, housewares, etc.

Head of household—For classification purposes, only one individual per household can be the head person. In husband-wife households, the husband arbitrarily is considered to be the head. In other households, the head person is the individual so regarded by its members; generally, that person is the chief breadwinner.

Household—Consists of the occupants of separate living quarters meeting either of the following criteria: (1) Persons, whether present or temporarily absent, whose usual place of residence

is the housing unit in question, or (2) Persons staying in the housing unit who have no usual place of residence elsewhere.

Household attitude questions—Items 1 through 7 of Form NCS 6. For households that consist of more than one member, the questions apply to the entire household.

Household larceny—Theft or attempted theft of property or cash from a residence or its immediate vicinity. Forcible entry, attempted forcible entry, or unlawful entry are not involved.

Household respondent—A knowledgeable adult member of the household, most frequently the head of household or that person's spouse. For each household, such a person answers the "household attitude questions."

Individual attitude questions—Items 8 through 16 of Form NCS 6. The questions apply to each person, not the entire household.

Individual respondent—Each person age 16 and over, including the household respondent, who participates in the survey. All such persons answer the "individual attitude questions."

Local police—The police force in the city where the respondent lives at the time of the interview.

Major food shopping—Refers to shopping for the bulk of the household's groceries.

Measured crimes—For the purpose of this report, the offenses are rape, personal robbery, assault, personal larceny, burglary, household larceny, and motor vehicle theft, as determined by the victimization component of the survey. Includes both completed and attempted acts that occurred during the 12 months prior to the month of interview.

Motor vehicle theft—Stealing or unauthorized taking of a motor vehicle, including attempts at such acts. Motor vehicles include automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and any other motorized vehicles legally allowed on public roads and highways.

Neighborhood—The general vicinity of the respondent's dwelling. The boundaries of a neighborhood define an area with which the respondent identifies.

Nonvictim—See "Not victimized," below.

Not victimized—For the purpose of this report, persons not categorized as "victimized" (see below) are considered "not victimized."

Offender—The perpetrator of a crime.

Operational practices—Refers to question 14b (ways of improving police performance) and includes four response categories: "Concentrate on more

important duties, serious crime, etc."; "Be more prompt, responsive, alert"; "Need more traffic control"; and "Need more policemen of particular type (foot, car) in certain areas or at certain times."

Personal larceny—Theft or attempted theft of property or cash, either with contact (but without force or threat of force) or without direct contact between victim and offender.

Personnel resources—Refers to question 14b (ways of improving police performance) and includes two response categories: "Hire more policemen" and "Improve training, raise qualifications or pay, recruitment policies."

Race—Determined by the interviewer upon observation, and asked only about persons not related to the head of household who were not present at the time of interview. The racial categories distinguished are white, black, and other. The category "other" consists mainly of American Indians and/or persons of Asian ancestry.

Rape—Carnal knowledge through the use of force or the threat of force, including attempts. Statutory rape (without force) is excluded. Includes both heterosexual and homosexual rape.

Rate of victimization—See "Victimization rate," below.

Robbery—Theft or attempted theft, directly from a person, of property or cash by force or threat of force, with or without a weapon.

Series victimizations—Three or more criminal events similar, if not identical, in nature and incurred by a person unable to identify separately the details of each act, or, in some cases, to recount accurately the total number of such acts. The term is applicable to each of the crimes measured by the victimization component of the survey.

Suburban or neighborhood shopping areas—Shopping centers or districts either outside the city limits or in outlying areas of the city near the respondent's residence.

Victim—See "Victimized," below.

Victimization—A specific criminal act as it affects a single victim, whether a person or household. In criminal acts against persons, the number of victimizations is determined by the number of victims of such acts. Each criminal act against a household is assumed to involve a single victim, the affected household.

Victimization rate—For crimes against persons, the victimization rate, a measure of occurrence among population groups at risk, is computed

on the basis of the number of victimizations per 1,000 resident population age 12 and over. For crimes against households, victimization rates are calculated on the basis of the number of victimizations per 1,000 households.

Victimized—For the purpose of this report, persons are regarded as "victimized" if they meet either of two criteria: (1) They personally experienced one or more of the following criminal victimizations during the 12 months prior to the month of interview: rape, personal robbery, assault, or personal larceny. Or, (2) they are members of a household that experienced one or more of the following criminal victimizations during the same time frame: burglary, household larceny, or motor vehicle theft.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION

USER EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Houston : Public Attitudes About Crime
SD-NCS-C-23

Dear Reader:

The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration is interested in your comments and suggestions about this report. We have provided this form for whatever opinions you wish to express about it. Please cut out both of these pages, staple them together on one corner, and fold so that the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration address appears on the outside. After folding, use tape to seal closed. No postage stamp is necessary.

Thank you for your help.

1. For what purpose did you use this report?

2. For that purpose, the report— ☐ Met most of my needs ☐ Met some of my needs ☐ Met none of my needs

3. How will this report be useful to you?

☐ Data source

☐ Other (please specify) _____

☐ Teaching material

☐ Reference for article or report

☐ Will not be useful to me (please explain) _____

☐ General information

☐ Criminal justice program planning

4. Which parts of the report, if any, were difficult to understand or use? How could they be improved?

5. Can you point out specific parts of the text or table notes that are not clear or terms that need to be defined?

6. Are there ways this report could be improved that you have not mentioned?

7. Please suggest other topics you would like to see addressed in future analytic reports using Survey victimization and/or attitude data.

8. In what capacity did you use this report?

- ☐ Researcher
- ☐ Educator
- ☐ Student
- ☐ Criminal justice agency employee
- ☐ Government other than criminal justice - Specify _____
- ☐ Other - Specify _____

9. If you used this report as a governmental employee, please indicate the level of government.

☐ Federal

☐ City

☐ State

☐ Other - Specify _____

☐ County

10. If you used this report as a criminal justice agency employee, please indicate the sector in which you work.

☐ Law enforcement (police)

☐ Corrections

☐ Legal services and prosecution

☐ Parole

☐ Public or private defense services

☐ Criminal justice planning agency

☐ Courts or court administration

☐ Other criminal justice agency - Specify type _____

☐ Probation

11. If you used this report as a criminal justice employee, please indicate the type of position you hold.

Mark all that apply.

☐ Agency or institution administrator

☐ Program or project manager

☐ General program planner/evaluator/analyst

☐ Statistician

☐ Budget planner/evaluator/analyst

☐ Other - Specify _____

☐ Operations or management planner/evaluator/analyst

12. Additional comments

OPTIONAL

Name		Telephone	
Number and street		()	
City	State	ZIP Code	

(Fold here)

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Law Enforcement Assistance Administration
Washington, D.C. 20531



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